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Gee Wizard! It's HARRY POTTER

We talk with best-selling author J.K. Rowling

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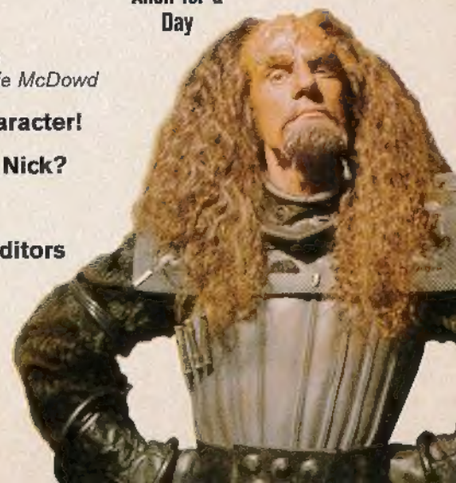

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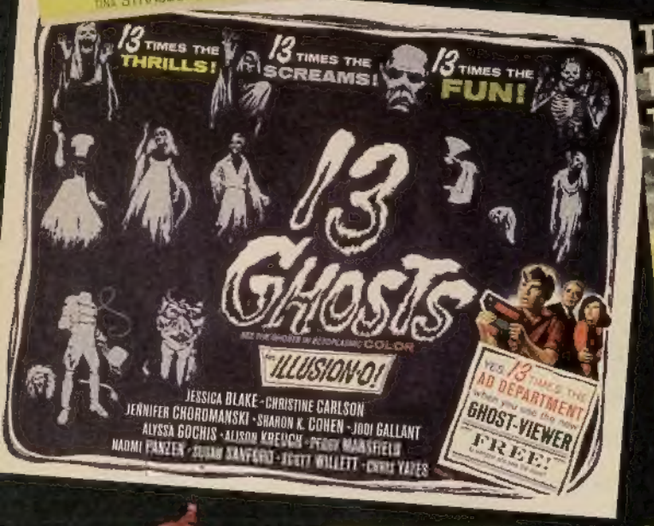

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Letters to the Editors

Real

Dear Nick Mag,
How many people subscribe to Nick Mag?
Erica N., age 12
Irvington, Kentucky

Dear Erica,
About 800,000 people subscribe to the magazine. That's more people than live in Wyoming (or in Alaska, Vermont, South Dakota, or North Dakota). It's also 677 times the population of Irvington, Kentucky!

Dear Nick Mag,
Are your offices in the same building as the MTV Studio? If so, is it fun to see all of those big celebrities?
Alyssa S., age 11
Ambridge, Pennsylvania

Dear Alyssa,
Yes and yes. However, the real fun is listening to the fans scream outside the building during tapings of *Total Request Live*. We can always tell when a hot celebrity is on the show because we can hear the noise from the street up in our offices on the 40th floor. Or maybe they're just Nick Mag fans!

I see Carson daily.

Send your letters to:

Letters to the Editors
NICKELODEON MAGAZINE
1515 Broadway, 40th floor
New York, NY 10036

Please include your name, age, address, and phone number.
Or e-mail us at: NickEditor@aol.com

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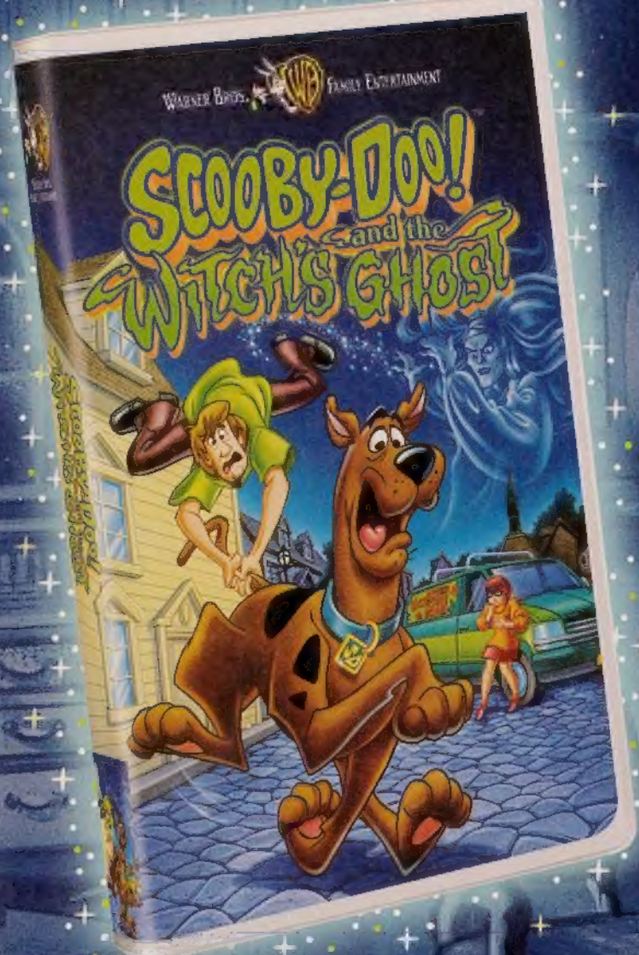

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Whatever We Want

One of Rubie's hair-raising Halloween costumes.

Welcome to the Science-Fiction Issue

Get cleared for liftoff and set a course for laughter. We hope you don't mind, but there's an alien or two along for the ride at the bottom of our pages. And don't be embarrassed to chuckle out loud at our out-of-this world humor, because in space, no one can hear you laugh. (Does anyone have any spare Halloween candy? All these sci-fi clichés have tired us out.)

I've grown a-costumed to your face.

Dressing Up the Facts

Rubie's Costume Company in Richmond Hill, New York, is the world's largest manufacturer of Halloween costumes. The head of the company, Howard Beige, outfitted us with some crucial information.

COSTUME CAPITAL: Rubie's main headquarters.

First costume ever made by Rubie's: Vampire (made in the 1950s)

The hottest costumes predicted for this Halloween: Darth Maul, Anakin Skywalker, Queen Amidala, Batman (from *Batman Beyond*), and Barbie

The number of different costumes Rubie's produces each year: 1,500

The number of people who work on one costume idea from start to finish: Between 30 and 50

Least popular costume ever: Civil War soldiers' uniforms for kids

Real

A Little Production Number

Our production assistant, Ricardo Sean Thompson, has a new baby boy: Jaiden Alonzo Thompson, born July 15, 1999. Congratulations to Ricardo, to Jaiden's big brother Larenz, and to Jaiden's mom, Blear Chimilio-Thompson. Here are the happy parents making a Jaiden sandwich.

Countdown Hype 2000

Number of full moons from October 1, 1999, until the year 2000:

3*

*One on October 24, one on November 23, and one on December 22. Now *that's* something to howl about.

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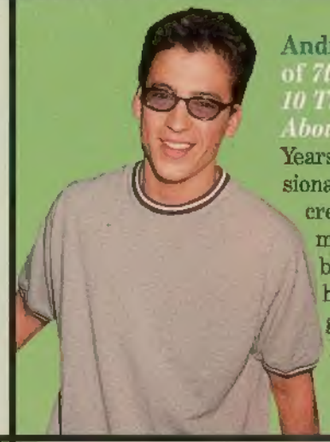
Frightfully Famous

Real

What's the most memorable Halloween costume you've ever worn?

Michelle Trachtenberg
of *Inspector Gadget*

I loved dressing up as Wonder Woman because it was a hand-me-down costume that my big sister gave me when I was seven. Anything she had was the coolest.



Andrew Keegan
of *7th Heaven* and *10 Things I Hate About You*

Years ago, I went to a professional makeup artist who created a gouged-out eye for me. It looked like my eyeball was torn out and just hanging with blood and green gunk. The reactions I got were really worth it.

Kel Mitchell of *Kenan & Kel* and *Mystery Men*

I created a Freddy Krueger costume when I was twelve, just to run around and scare people on Halloween. I had a mask of Curly (from the Three Stooges) and I turned it inside out to make the skin look bad. Then I drew lines all over it to make it look like Freddy.

Scott Moffatt
of The Moffatts

My brothers and I used to dress up as a group. One time we were the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. When we were really young, they were the three little pigs and I dressed up as the wolf.

James Van Der Beek
of *Dawson's Creek*

I pretty much dressed up as whatever the fad was at the time. When I was really little, I was a werewolf. I liked doing the scary-movie costume thing.

Danielle Fishel
of *Boy Meets World*

I was a witch so many times for Halloween. I'd color my hair green and tease it to make it humongous.

SPOOKY GOO

Real

Make your Halloween scarier with this classic formula for a spooky goo that shifts from a liquid to a solid when you squeeze it.

Warning: This goo is *not* to be eaten–just played with.

What you'll need:

- 4 cups cornstarch
- 2 cups water

You'll also need:

- an adult, to help
- 1- or 2-gallon plastic food-storage bag
- measuring cup
- large bowl
- a place that's okay to get messy (such as your backyard) or some newspaper
- old clothes or an apron

Prevent a terrifying mess: The best place to make and enjoy spooky goo is in an outdoor area that can be hosed off afterward. To prevent a mess, put down newspaper before you start mixing. When you're finished playing with your goo, **don't wash it down the drain.** Just put it back in the plastic food-storage bag and throw it away.

What to do:

1. Pour 4 cups of cornstarch into the plastic bag.

2. Pour 2 cups of water into the bag.

3. Force most of the air out of the top of the bag and seal it.

4. Mix the ingredients together by squeezing the bag until the contents are the consistency of wet clay.

5. To test whether your spooky goo is ready, grab a handful out of the bag and squeeze. It should harden in your fist *(photo a)*, then become drippy again when you let it sit in your hand *(photo b)*. If your goo doesn't harden, add a sprinkle of cornstarch to the bag. If it doesn't turn into a liquid, add a teaspoon of water to the bag. Add water or cornstarch as necessary until your spooky goo is the right consistency.

6. Pour the goo into the bowl by turning the bag inside out.

ENJOY... IF YOU DARE.

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1999 NICK TAKES OVER YOUR SCHOOL SWEEPSTAKES RULES 1. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. 2. To enter the sweepstakes hand-print your complete name, address, city, state, zip code, daytime phone number and age on a 3 1/2" x 5" postcard, and mail it to: Nickelodeon Takes Over Your School Sweepstakes,P.O. Box 4825, Orlando, FL 32802. Enter as often as you wish, but each entry must be hand-printed and mailed separately. Express overnight entries will not be accepted. Entrants must be between the ages of 6 and 15 as of October 14, 1999. Limit one prize per family/household. 3. Entries that are illegible, incomplete, printed by machine or otherwise mechanically reproduced will not be accepted. Sweepstakes sponsors are not responsible for entries that may be lost, delayed, mutilated or misdirected or for typographical errors in the entry forms or rules. 4. Sweepstakes commences September 20, 1999 and ends November 12, 1999 Entries received at the above address no later than November 12, 1999. Winners will be selected in a random drawing on or about November 15, 1999 by an independent judging organization from among all qualified entries received. Odds of winning will depend on the total number of qualified entries received. The Grand Prize winner will be notified by telephone and mail on or about 11/19/99. 5. The concept of the sweepstakes and prizes are as follows: Grand Prize (1): Winner will be awarded a "Nick Takes Over Your School" 1-day event at winner's school to include Nickelodeon celebrities, Nickelodeon costume characters, Nickelodeon Obstacle Course, lunch to be catered by Chuck E. Cheese's , and a $1,000.00 check to the winner. This event is strictly for promotional purposes. The actual number and retail value of student prizes awarded will be determined by the total number of students enrolled at the Grand Prize Winner's school as of November 1999. A donation in the amount of $5,000.00 will be made to the Grand Prize winner's school. Total estimated retail value of Grand Prize $1000.00. First Prize (250): Winner will receive a Tonka Joe Truck by Hasbro, Inc. (estimated retail value $9.99/each) and a Hasbro Interactive CD-Rom game (estimated retail value $29.99/each). Total estimated retail value of all first prize $9995.00. Second Prize (500): Winner will receive $10.00 in Chuck E. Cheese's tokens. Total estimated retail value of all second prizes $5,000.00. In the event, a second prize winner resides 60 miles or more from a Chuck E. Cheese's restaurant, the cash equivalent will be awarded. Total estimated retail value of sweepstakes prizing is $15,995.00. The actual date of the Grand Prize Winner's school event will be determined by Nickelodeon but will occur before May 30, 2000. 6. Prizes are non-transferable and have no cash equivalent except as specified. Substitution of prizes by any winner is prohibited. MTV Networks ("MTVN") reserves the right in its sole discretion to substitute any prizes with prizes of comparable value. In the event any winner is unable to be notified, an alternate winner will be selected from among all of the remaining entries. The Grand Prize Winner and/or parent or legal guardian is solely responsible for all insurance and applicable federal, state and local taxes. 7. Sweepstakes open to residents of the continental United States who are between the ages of 6 and 15 as of October 14, 1999. Sweepstakes not open to employees and their immediate families of MTV Networks, Viacom International Inc., Chuck E. Cheese's, and Hasbro, Inc., their parent, subsidiary and affiliated companies, licensees, advertising and promotional agencies, the independent judging organization, printing agents and any other sponsors. Winners must prove eligibility. Winners must sign an affidavit (i) releasing MTVN, Viacom International Inc., Hasbro, Inc., their parent, subsidiary and affiliated companies, licensees, advertising and promotional agencies from any liability, claims, demands, and causes of action from personal injury and/or damage, death, or loss suffered in connection with this sweepstakes or the use or acceptance of the prizes or any portion thereof to be eligible; and (ii) where permitted by law, granting MTVN, Viacom International Inc., Chuck E. Cheese's, and Hasbro, Inc., their parent, subsidiary and affiliated companies, licensees, advertising and promotional agencies the right to use the winner's name, voice, and likeness for advertising and publicity purposes without additional compensation. Entry into sweepstakes constitutes the winners' agreement to sign such a release. Winner's receipt of any of the prize components of this sweepstakes is conditioned upon compliance with any and all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, and regulations. Noncompliance will result in disqualification of winner. Void where prohibited or restricted by law. All entries become the property of MTVN. Winners and a parent or legal guardian will be required within five (5) business days to sign and return affidavit of eligibility and compliance with official rules and all legal documents which MTVN may require (including a W-9 tax form). Noncompliance within this time period will result in disqualification and an alternate winner will be selected. 8. By participating in this sweepstakes, entrants agree to be bound by these rules and the decisions of the judges and MTVN, which are final in all matters relating to this sweepstakes. 10. For a list of winners and/or a copy of these rules, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: MTV Networks,1515 Broadway, New York, NY 10036, Attn: Nick Takes Over Your School Sweepstakes. All requests for list of winners or a copy of these rules must be received by January 10, 2000. 11. Winners agree that MTV Networks, Viacom International Inc., Chuck E. Cheese's, and Hasbro, Inc., their parent, subsidiary and affiliated companies, and licensees, advertising and promotional agencies, the independent judging organization, printing agents or any other sponsors, as well as the employees of each of them, shall have no liability in connection with selection, acceptance or use of the prizes awarded herein.

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Wizard Writer

Real

British author J.K. Rowling cast a spell on readers with her first book, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*. The 1997 novel describes the adventures of Harry, a young wizard-in-training at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. The third book in the series, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, has just been published in the United States. Lynda Jones talked to J.K. about reading, writing, and wizardry.

NICKELODEON MAGAZINE: Did you write stories when you were young?
J.K. ROWLING: Yes, the earliest was when I was six. It was about a rabbit called Rabbit who got the measles and was visited by his friends. That was the whole story.

How did you come up with the idea for the first Harry Potter book?
The idea came to me while I was on the train. I dived into my bag for paper and a pen. I had the paper, but I didn't have the pen. So I just sat there for four hours and thought of lots of stuff that actually ended up being in the book. My brain just went crazy. The moment I got home, I wrote furiously, sheets and sheets.

Harry is visited by Dobby, a house-elf, on his 12th birthday.

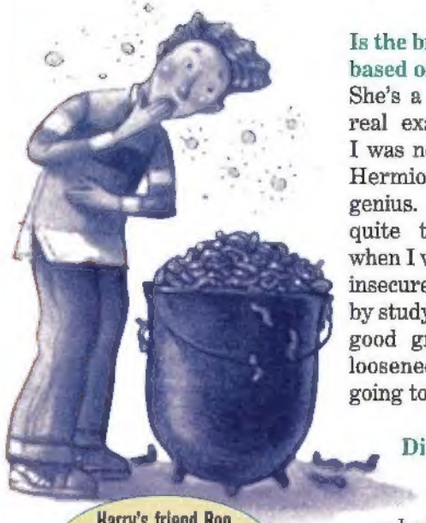
Did you invent the spells that the wizards cast in your books?
Some of them are based on what people once believed, but I made up most of them.

Do you believe in witchcraft?
Not really. I know quite a lot about it, but I don't believe it works.

How did you come up with all the unusual names in your books?
I collect odd names. I look at maps and names of saints. Hedwig, the mail-carrying owl in the book, is a German saint. I also invent a lot of names. Quidditch [a basketball-like sport that's played in midair] is an invented name.

How did you create Quidditch?
I love basketball, and I always wanted to see a game with four balls in play because it would be really funny to watch. The book I'm writing at the moment is called *The Quidditch World Cup*.

You used to teach French to teenagers. Did you base any of your characters on kids you taught?
No. All the characters are based on people I remember from my own childhood. Ron [one of Harry's best friends] is actually based on one of my oldest friends. I was very nervous about giving him the finished book. I thought that if he didn't like the character, it would be terrible. When he read the book, he said, "Oh, he's all right. He's quite cool." So that was lucky.



Harry's friend Ron belches up slugs when a curse backfires.

Is the brainy girl Hermione based on you?
She's a caricature of me—a real exaggeration—because I was never that clever, and Hermione is a borderline genius. I don't think I was quite that annoying, but when I was eleven I was very insecure. I covered up for it by studying hard and getting good grades. By twelve I loosened up. Hermione is going to loosen up, too.

Did you ever have an imaginary friend?
I had loads. In fact, when I was a kid, I pretty much lived in a fantasy world.

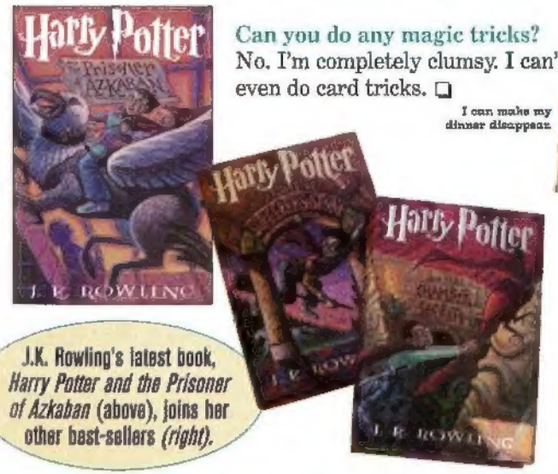
What was your favorite subject in school?
English, most definitely. My worst subject was chemistry, which is why Professor Snape [a mean teacher] teaches Potions. I hated chemistry.

If you had magic powers like Harry Potter, how would you use them?
I would make myself tidier because I'm very disorganized, and I would shrink people who annoy me and put them under a teacup for a bit to keep them quiet.

Do you have to sit in a special place to write?
No, I can write anywhere. I made up the names of the characters on a sick bag while I was on an airplane. I told this to a group of kids and a boy said, "Ah, no, that's disgusting." And I said, "Well, I hadn't *used* the sick bag."

Can you do any magic tricks?
No. I'm completely clumsy. I can't even do card tricks. ❑

I can make my dinner disappear.



J.K. Rowling's latest book, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* (above), joins her other best-sellers *(right)*.

A Thesorcererus

Here's a guide to some of the strange words you'll encounter in the three Harry Potter books.

Aragog: a spider the size of a small elephant

Bludger: a ball, used in the game of Quidditch, that rockets around trying to knock players off their broomsticks *(see Quidditch)*

Floo powder: a glittery powder that transports people from one place to another

Gobstones: a marbles-like game where the stones squirt a stinky liquid into a player's face if he or she loses a point

Grindylow: a water demon

Knuts: bronze coins

Mandrake: a baby with a plant growing out of his or her head. The plant's leaves restore people who have been changed into other forms back to their original state.

Mudblood: an insulting name for someone with human (nonwizard) parents

Muggle: a human (nonwizard)

Parselmouth: someone who can talk to snakes

Quidditch: a game played in midair with four balls by competitors who fly around on broomsticks

Remembrall: a marble-size glass ball that turns red when you've forgotten something

Fluffy, a huge three-headed dog, guards a secret chamber at the Hogwarts School.

SCIENCE OR FICTION?

You know that *Star Wars* is fiction, and *The Matrix* is mired in misinformation. But there are lots of absolute truths that you might not believe. Fill in each blank below with an *S* if the statement beside it is a science fact (true) or with an *F* if it's science fiction (false).

Answers on page 78.

BY RACHEL ROSWAL

___1. There are species of wasps that have the scientific names *Polemistus chewbacca* and *Polemistus yoda*.

___2. The world's newest vehicle is a car that can transform into a boat, an airplane, and a singing lawn mower.

___3. Princeton University scientists saved Albert Einstein's brain in a jar, but some students threw it out last year because it smelled so bad.

___4. Horse urine has been used in some medical treatments for humans.

___5. Dolly the sheep, the world's first cloned animal, has a coat of 50 percent rayon and 50 percent cotton.

___6. Fish from the family Exocoetidae can fly for up to 30 seconds at a time, traveling distances of more than 600 feet.

___7. In 1996, a college student invented robotic ants that run on rechargeable batteries.

___8. Electric eels have proven to be a good source of backup power in case the electricity goes out.

___9. Last year, a group of scientists in Hawaii created mice that were cloned from clones.

___10. The world's smallest ruler can measure sizes as small as 1/6,000 the width of a human hair.

___11. An engineer recently developed a CD the size of a penny that can store five hours' worth of movies.

___12. Time machines that look like the pods in *The Phantom Menace* are available in silver, black, and yellow for about $500,000. (Racing stripes cost extra.)

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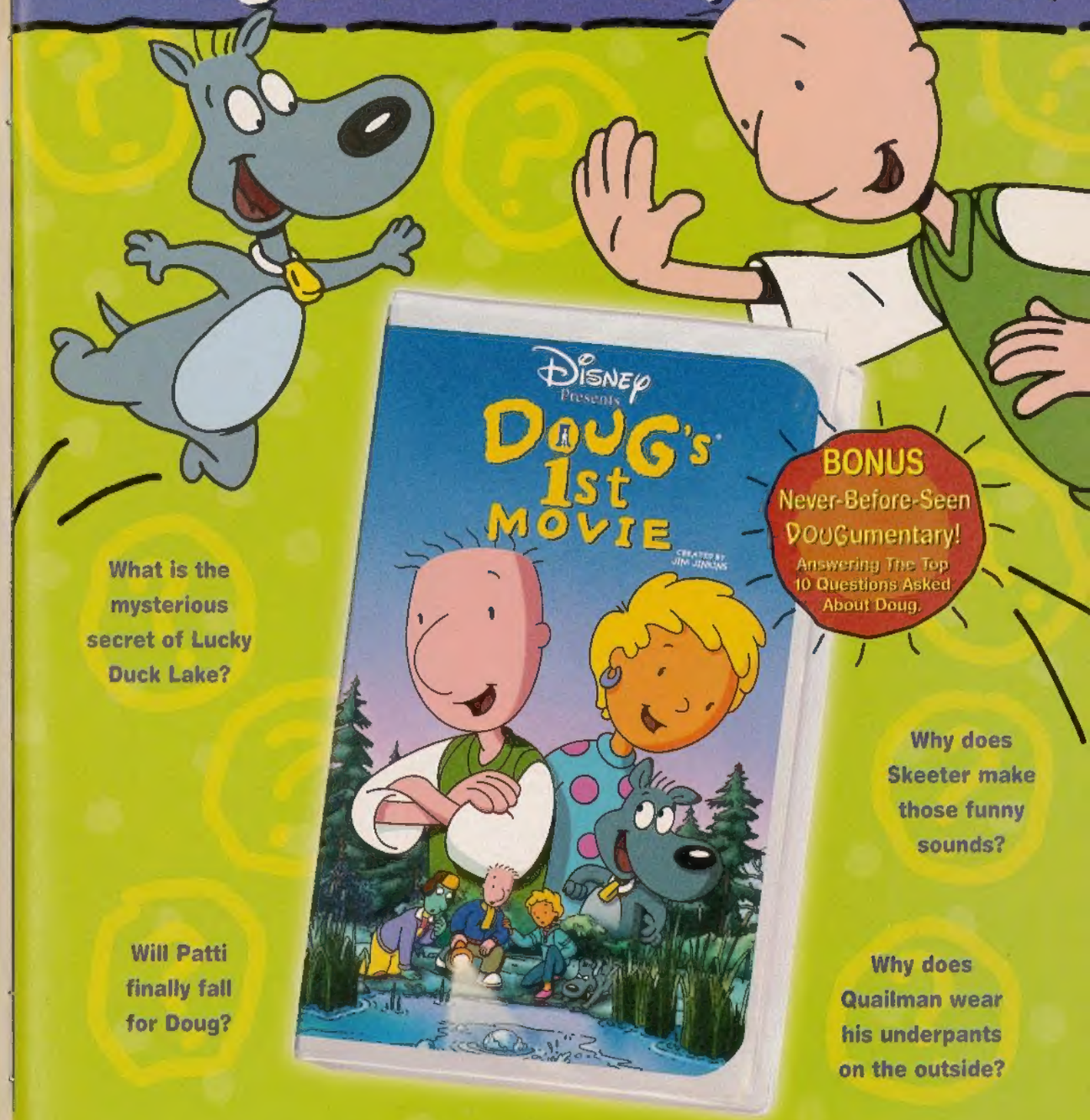

What is the mysterious secret of Lucky Duck Lake?

Why does Skeeter make those funny sounds?

Will Patti finally fall for Doug?

Why does Quailman wear his underpants on the outside?

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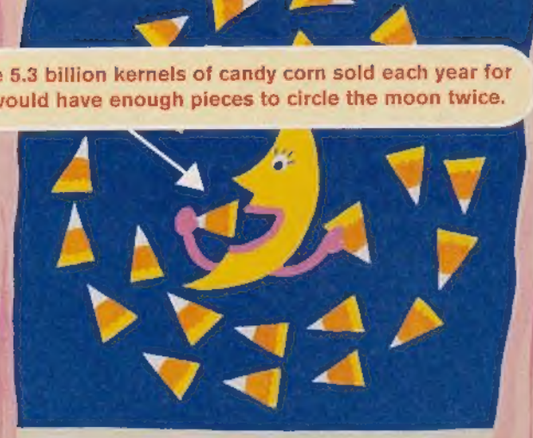
The Sweet Truth

by Lynda Jones

Real

Here are some yummy facts about the best part of Halloween.



If you lined up the 5.3 billion kernels of candy corn sold each year for Halloween, you would have enough pieces to circle the moon twice.

Before the 1300s, most candy was sold by doctors. They offered sweets to patients to mask the taste of bitter medicines.

People in Denmark eat the most candy in the world, an average of 29.5 pounds per person each year.

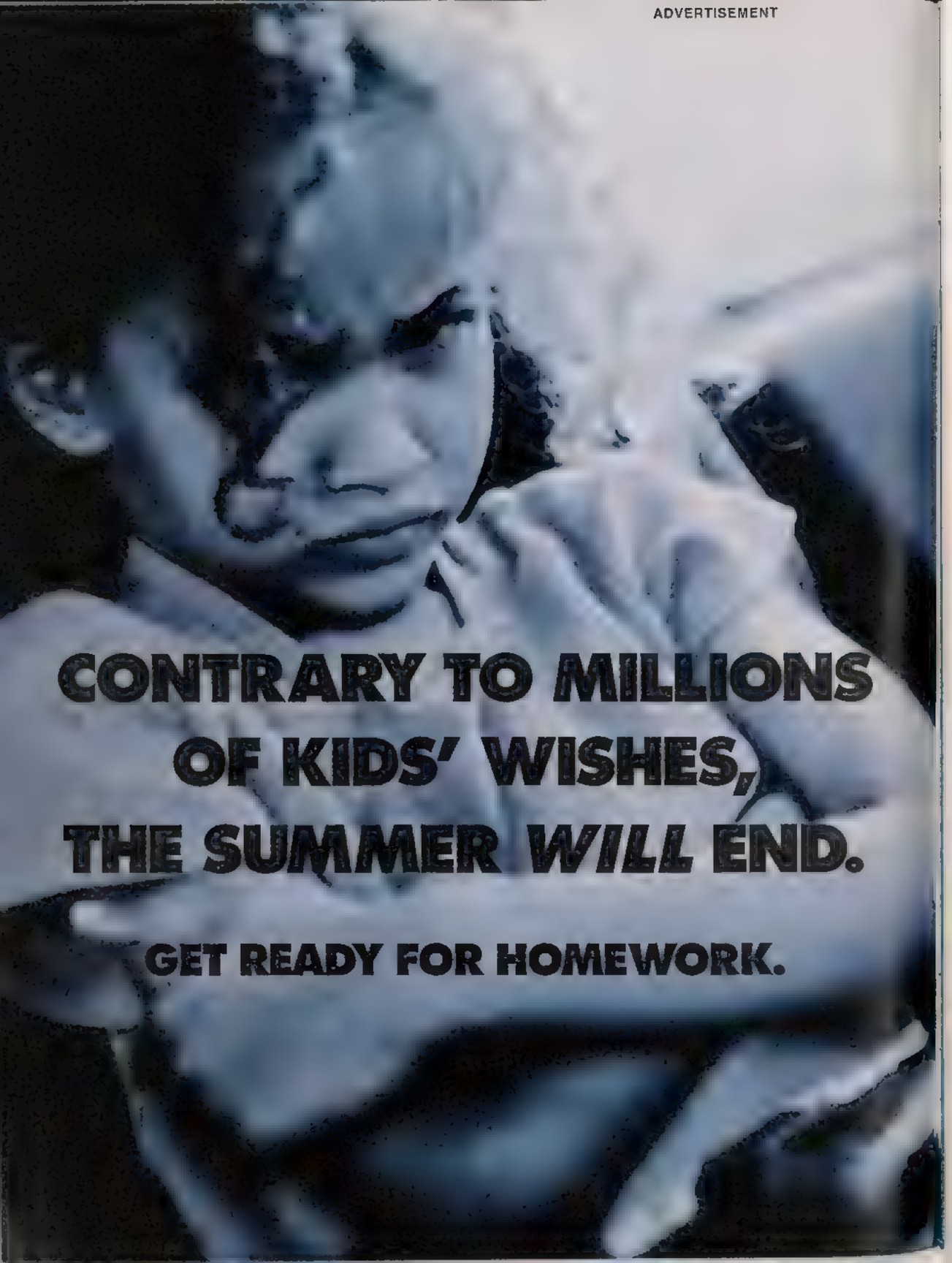
Candy made mostly of sugar (98 percent) and cooked at high heat (300°F) will turn out hard, like a lollipop. Sweets made of only 70 percent sugar and cooked at lower heat (150°F) will come out soft and chewy, like a caramel.

Chocolate bar manufacturers use about 4 billion pounds of milk and 375 million pounds of peanuts each year.

The world's largest candy bar was made in Bloomington, Illinois, in 1989. The 25-foot-long slab of chocolate weighed 7,200 pounds.

Cherry is the most popular hard-candy flavor in the United States.

American soldiers in World War II received Tootsie Rolls in their meals because the treats could survive in all kinds of weather.



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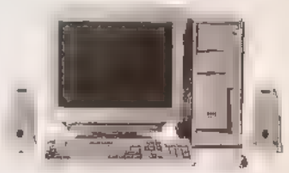

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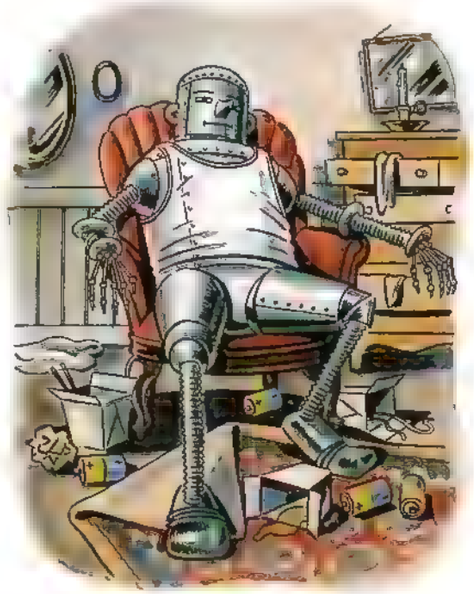
The ~~Father~~ Cousin of Science Fiction

French author Jules Verne (1828–1905) is considered the father of modern science fiction. But did you know that his older cousin, Vinnie "Jewels" Verne (1827–1904), was really the world's first science-fiction writer? In fact, not only did the more famous Jules get all his ideas from Jewels, so did other sci-fi writers, even in our own century.

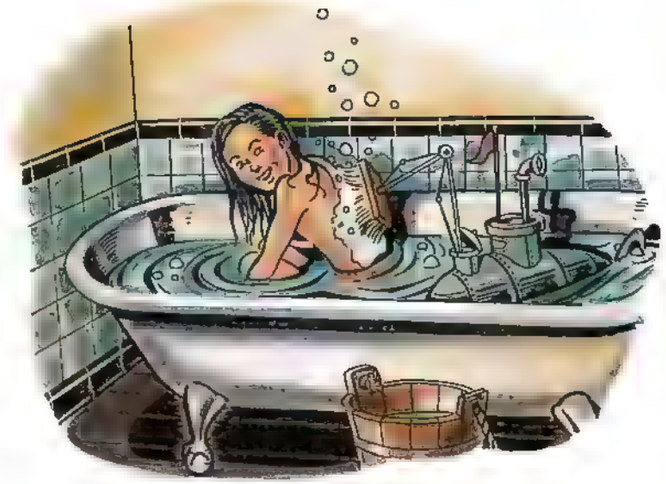
In 1864 Jules Verne published *A Journey to the Center of the Earth,* detailing a trek to the Earth's core. But in 1863 his cousin wrote *A Journey to the Creamy Nougat Center of the Candy Bar.* Five scientists and a dog named Chunky, hungry for adventure and chocolate, shrink themselves down to flea-size and dig their way to the very heart of a candy bar. Along the way they encounter thick rocky clusters of peanut butter, dense dark chocolate clouds, and treacherous caramel swamps. When the scientists are enlarged back to their normal size, they come out much, much larger, thanks to the many calories and grams of fat their tiny bodies ingested!

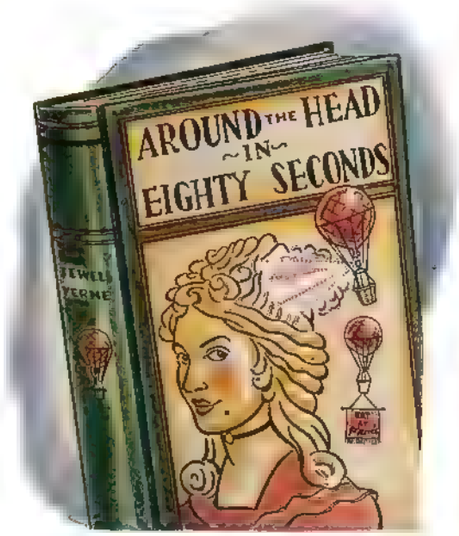
I'm Chunky's older cousin.

After the novel *A Journey to the Creamy Nougat Center of the Candy Bar* sold only three copies, Jewels turned to the subject of robots. In fact, Isaac Asimov's 1950 book *I, Robot* may have been inspired by Jewels' 1865 *Guy, Robot.* In the novel, the robot is just a regular guy named, appropriately, Guy I. He rarely cooks, reads nothing but the sports pages, leaves his clothes on the floor, and dresses like a slob. In the exciting yet moving ending, he is replaced by the more state-of-the-art Guy II, who still forgets to put down the toilet seat for his mate.

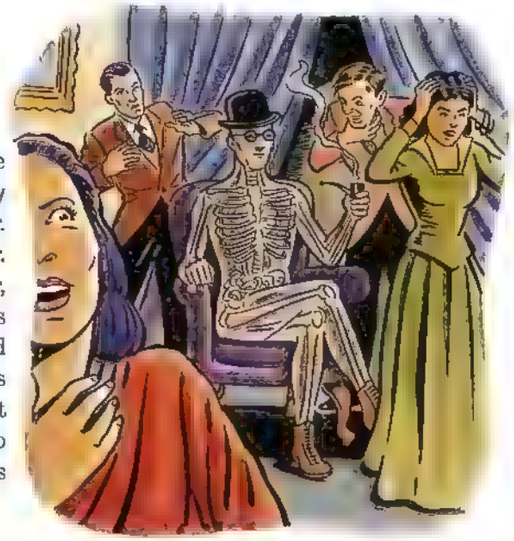


In *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* (1870), Jules Verne created the world's first submarine. It is called the *Nautilus* and is commanded by the Dr. Evil-like Captain Nemo. In his 1869 novel *Twenty Thousand Centimeters Under the Tub,* Jewels Verne came up with a more practical invention: a submarine for the bath. The lather-powered submarine could scrub bathers underwater—leaving them free to play with toy submarines!





One year before his more famous cousin wrote *Around the World in Eighty Days,* about a hot-air balloon trip, Jewels Verne penned his 1873 book *Around the Head in Eighty Seconds,* about a tiny hot-air balloon that 19th century French citizens could use for cosmetic purposes, such as applying hair spray and makeup. Way beyond hot-air balloons, airplanes now carry millions of passengers around the world, and humankind has landed on the moon. But Vinnie "Jewels" Verne's tiny—yet highly useful—invention still has not come to pass.



In the year 1897 H.G. Wells wrote *The Invisible Man.* Could the idea have come from Jewels Verne's book *The Only Slightly Invisible Man* (1880)? In Jewels' novel, a scientist named Dr. Clive Livermore concocts a potion he hopes will make him disappear. Livermore drinks only half the contents of the test tube, however, and just his skin disappears. His standing in society plummets, as nobody really wants to see what he had for dinner last night and what's happening to it now. After he asks his girlfriend to take his "hand and spleen in marriage," she tells him, "Why, I can see right through you, Clive." In the end he has become too thin-skinned to ever leave his house, and he spends the rest of his days flexing his see-through abs in the mirror.

Due to lack of book sales, Vinnie "Jewels" Verne eventually gave up writing science fiction and turned to architecture. His plans to erect a 21,800,000-story building that would reach the moon never got off the ground, however, because the moon kept moving.

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Out of Their Gourds

Can you figure out which famous faces artist Hugh McMahon carved into these pumpkins? We've given you a few hints. Answers on page 76.

1

This crime-solving hound stakes out haunted houses.

2

We're *loca* for this island native who used to perform with a boy group.

3

This groovy international figure uses way-out technology to battle Evil.

4

She's a pretty woman who's crazy for movies about weddings.

TO DROOL FOR

Let's face it: Wearing a costume is not usually fun for pets. But here are some Halloween costume ideas your pets will *love*.

NUDIST
Take off your dog's or cat's collar.

ATHLETE
Take your dog for a run.

GHOST
Cover your dog with powdered sugar.

MASSAGE BOOTHER
Pet your pet.

DUST BUNNY
Brush your cat or dog, but leave the fur on his or her body in a cloudy clump.

AIRPORT DRUG-SNIFFING DOG
Put slices of turkey in a backpack and walk around near your dog.

MIA HAMM
Give your cat a ball of string.

ROYAL FOOD TASTER
Wear a crown while giving your pet treats.

ADORED FAMILY MEMBERS
Just let them be *themselves*.

I'm burning up inside this doggy costume!

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Drawing: Winners will be selected in a random drawing held on or about 3/1/2000 from all eligible entries by an independent judging agency, whose decisions are final & binding on all matters relating to this sweepstakes. Winners will be notified by mail on or about 3/31/2000. If a winner cannot be reached by mail, an alternate winner will be selected. Winners may not substitute, assign or transfer prizes or redeem prizes for cash, but sponsor reserves the right to substitute prize with a prize of comparable value should the advertised prize become unavailable. 4. Prizes: Grand Prize (4): A Jedi Quest Party Prize consists of a catered party for 31 people (winner 25 friends, and 5 adults) at the winner's home, a 46" Widescope Big Screen Color TV, VHS Hi-Fi Stereo VCR, Max TV Surround Sound System CD Changer Cassette deck AM/FM tuner), Audio/Video Cabinet a PlayStation game console, and 25 Jedi Quest packs consisting of *Star Wars* toys (selected by the sponsor). A parent/legal guardian and four (4) adults (21 years of age or older) must be present to supervise at the party. Party must be held before 8/31/2000, or prize will be forfeited and an alternate winner determined. Expenses not stated are solely the winner's responsibility. Approximate Retail Value (ARV) $12,500.00 each. First Prize (100): A Jedi Quest pack consisting of *Star Wars* toys (selected by the sponsor). ARV $150.00 each. Second Prize (500): A Jedi Quest Watch, a one (1) year 12 month subscription to *Star Wars Kids* Magazine, and one (1) *Star Wars*, Episode *Great Big Flap Book* published by Random House Children's Books. ARV $42.98 each. To all ARV of all prizes $86,500.00. Approximately 30,000,000 official entry forms will be available; however, odds of winning a prize depend on the number of eligible entries received. Prizes may be awarded in the name of winners parent/legal guardian. 5. 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TO DROOL FOR

Let's face it: Wearing a costume is not usually fun for pets. But here are some Halloween costume ideas your pets will *love.*

NUDIST
Take off your dog's or cat's collar.

I'm burning up inside this doggy costume!

ATHLETE
Take your dog for a run

GHO
Cover y

MAS
Pet you

DUS
Brush y

AIRP
Put slic

MIA
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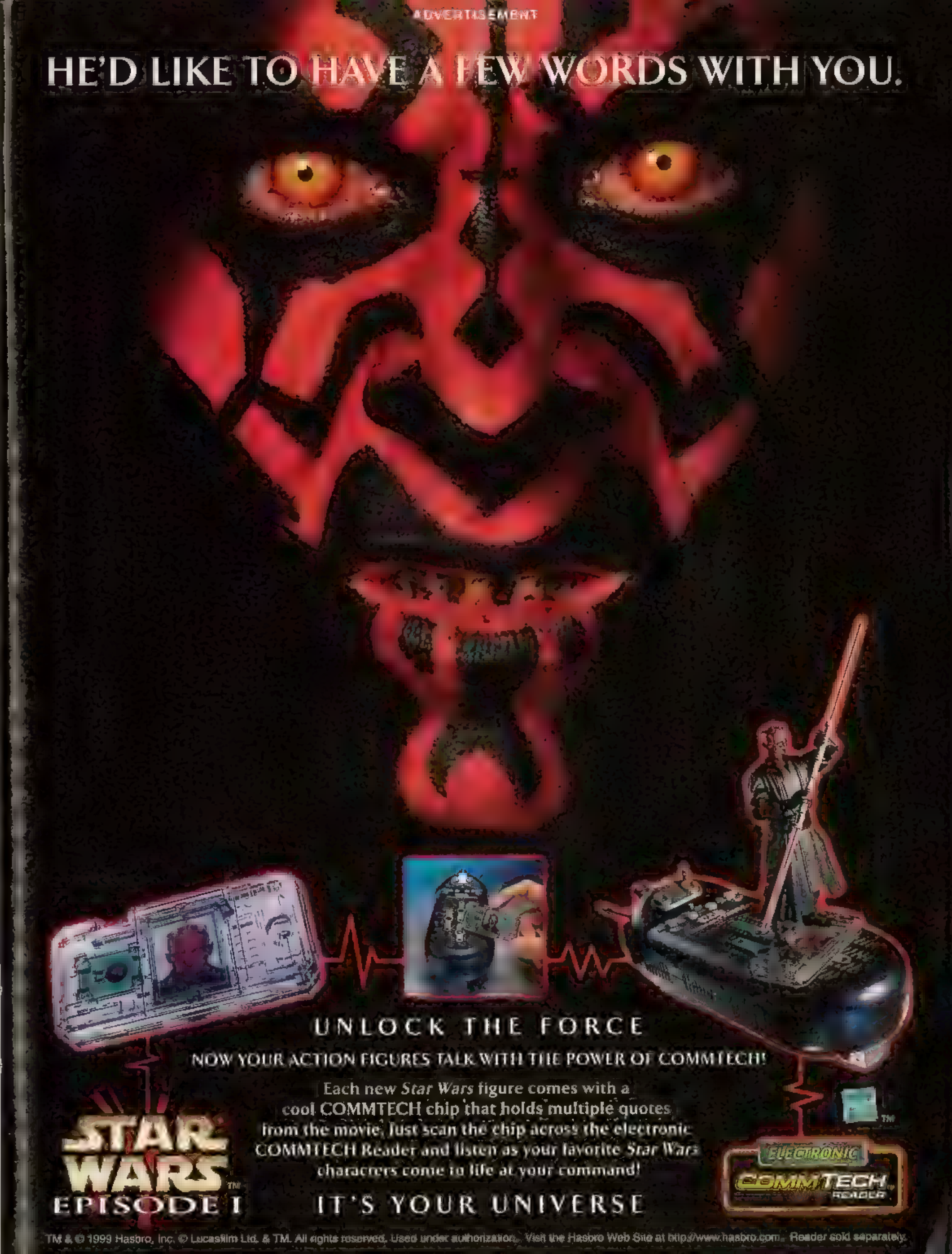

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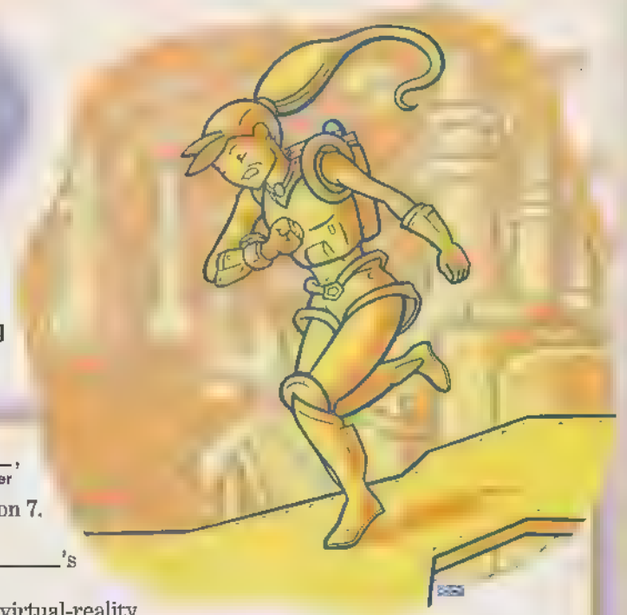

Ask someone to give you the missing words for this thrilling sci-fi story without showing or reading it to him or her. Pencil in the words. Then read the whole thing out loud.

It was the Fourth of July, the year 20 _____ (double-digit number), and time was running out for Planet _____ (noun)-tron 7. The only way to deactivate the evil Dr. _____ (food)'s latest weapon, the _____ (animal)-Ray, was to win a virtual-reality game on his website. A spy in the doctor's headquarters recently e-mailed the following information: "Find the _____ (junk food) and eat it, or your planet will melt like a hot _____ (noun)."

Special Agent _____ (pet's name) plugged into the game with a virtual-reality _____ (piece of clothing) attached to her _____ (body part), and was suddenly _____ (verb)ing down a crowded street in the year _____ (four-digit number). Everyone looked normal, except that they had _____ (color) spots on their _____ (plural body part) and moved extremely _____ (adverb (-ly word)). The only thing anyone said was "_____ (appliance)!"

Looking everywhere for the game-saving junk food, and with only _____ (small number) seconds left, the agent walked by a mirrored _____ (noun) made entirely of _____ (plural noun) and _____ (pizza topping). In her reflection she saw something strange: It was a shimmering piece of _____ (same junk food) stuck to her virtual-reality character! It was on her back—the last place she would have ever looked.

Remembering the spy's advice, she ate the stuff. Her stomach _____ (past-tense verb) loudly and a(n) _____ (adjective) light filled the game as the doctor's evil ray deactivated.

After the special agent exited the game, _____ (adjective) reporters swarmed around her, wanting to know how _____ (adjective) it felt to save the world. She opened her mouth, but all that came out was "_____ (same appliance)!" Can opener!

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- ✶ Assistants using Bunsen burners to toast marshmallows
- ✶ Ketchup stains on clean lab coat
- ✶ Nothing in lab will bubble
- ✶ Having to back up brilliant theories with actual facts
- ✶ Blackboard too small for long formulas
- ✶ Can't get hair to stick up like Einstein's
- ✶ Never offered own TV show like that guy Bill Nye
- ✶ Research stolen for eighth-grade science-fair projects
- ✶ Robot insists on speaking in annoying monotone
- ✶ Frogs hop away before being dissected
- ✶ Days when nothing comes to life
- ✶ Lab rats strike for imported cheese
- ✶ Secret formula tastes awful

They woofed at me at the academy!

PULLOUT PRANK

Use the travel brochure on the next page to convince your family to plan some trips to far-out places.

1. Carefully tear out the page along the perforation.

2. Fold at the arrows so that "3...2...1..." is on top.

3. Leave the brochure somewhere at home where a family member will find it.
4. When someone picks it up, suggest one of the hot spots for your family's next vacation.

Fold y Here

Carefully tear out th s page along the dotted line. Y

old y Here

Relax in the land before cavemen, before dinosaurs, before much of anything on...

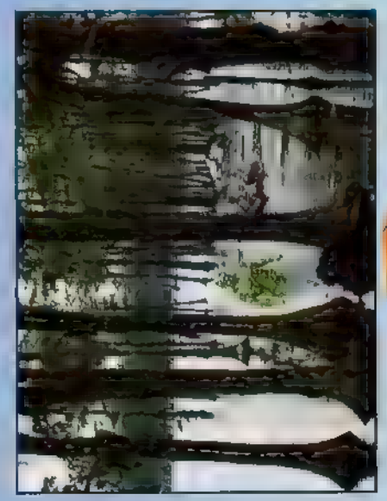
We almost forgot it, too, but then we remembered. Surround yourself with endless lush acres of untouched swampland, billions of gallons of primordial soup, and lots and lots of gray mist. Leave all the creature comforts behind...and meet your *own* creature.

Spend **five fetid days and six humid nights** at the prehistoric Lagoon Lodge, where you'll dine at Le Bog and enjoy the very buggiest of intergalactic cuisines.

We provide mosquito netting, oxygen tanks, nose plugs, and galoshes.

"It made Jurassic Park look like the future!"
***TOM AND CINDY MITCHELL,* Clayton, Missouri**

"The Planet That Time Forgot was the time of our lives. We'll never forget it!"
***M. NEESIA,* Podunk, Illinois**



Ooh-la-la! Beep! Beep! It's France—only better! It's...

The Eiffel Tower is made of metal...and so is your guide! You'll gawk at the romantic aluminum men wearing berets and aluminum women dressed in the latest French fashion. You'll shop for the world's finest springs and coils.

You'll enjoy French cuisine at its most metallic and sit at a sidewalk café with Robo-Pierre, sipping a cup of French-roasted 3-In-One oil!

You'll spend **five days and six battery-packed nights** at Paris' famed Robo-Ritz Hotel (rated AAA by Duracell Travel Guides).

"I loved it when a Frenchman blinked at me!"
***FRAN KOPHILE,* Paris, Texas**

"This place really puts the wrench in the French!"
***I. B. STEELE,* Bethlehem, Pennsylvania**

Cruise to the...

Are you brave enough? Do you have what it takes? Do you dare? Travel w th us to the unknown. We don't know how many days and we have no idea how many nights. One-way tickets only

Nurture your sole at the...

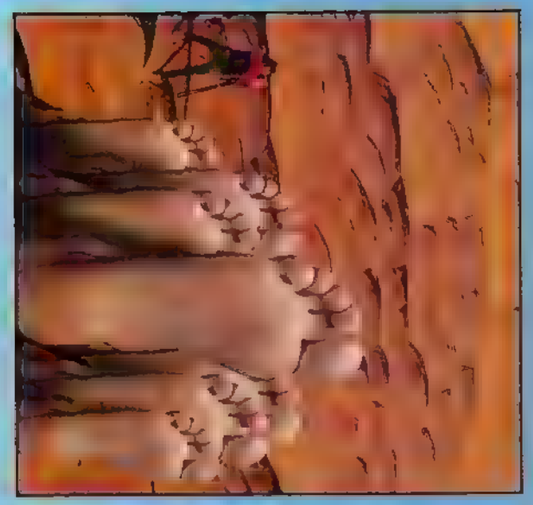
Museum of the Fallen Arches

No, she's not 50 feet tall. The gal with her own planet has 50 feet—and 250 toes—for you and your family to explore! Your tour guide, Dr. Scholl, will take you to the Land of the Fallen Arches and the awesome Bunion Canyon. Enjoy endless games of This Little Piggy with the trickish 50-Foot Woman herself.

Free passes to the Museum of Heelstory included in your package of **50 days and 50 nights.**

Note: Travelers are advised to bring a 1,000-pack of Odor-Eaters.

"An educational experience for the whole family...plus all that great shopping for shoes!"
IMELDA MARCOS, Manila, Philippines



Think big, live large on...

Humongotron

it's a massive thrill when you come to Planet Humongotron for a really—and we mean REALLY—big time. Relax in our thimble-size hot tubs, enjoy a dip in our teaspoon-size pool, or just lie back on a grain of sand and watch the big show. There's an all-you-can-eat shrimp dinner...and the kids will love the Sunday small-fry barbecue. Stay at either Motel $\frac{1}{4}$ (they leave a tiny flashlight bulb on for you) or Homoncu-Lodge, right near the Minimall. Your rental car provided free by Matchbox.

Book **four days and three nights** and you'll get free tickets to a Giants game and two rounds of miniature golf on the house!

"Bigger IS better!"
L. M. SMALL, Tinytown, Iowa

"I think one of the natives had a big crush on me."
ANNAMARIE INFINITESSIMO, Brooklyn, New York

A long time ago in a frisky forest far, far away...otters ruled! Now you can visit the...

Otter Log Cabin

You'll GAPE as your floating log cabin takes you past thousands and thousands of otters.

You'll be AWESTRUCK as you watch them go to work wearing suits, raise their families, relax in their living rooms, go to school, and kick back at a clam bar.

You'll LAUGH until it hurts when you go to an otter comedy club!

And you'll CRY when you watch the planet's favorite soap opera, *As the Log Rolls.*

Eight days and seven nights, if you can stay afloat.

"The warmest, fuzziest vacation I've ever taken!"
PETE DUFFY, Bridgeport, Texas

"I wish them rascally varmints hadn't gnawed on my cane."
POPS DEEGAN, Brightwater, Alabama

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NEW!

3 FREE GIFTS!

HA HA.

Three misadventures in one book – accidentally injuring Chicago's star basketball player ... dangling from a skyscraper ... and getting caught in Kenan's father's boss's house.

OH NO!

Separated from his group while snowboarding, Dmitri realizes something big and dark and hairy is looming behind, getting closer and closer...

$1.99 SPECIAL

A young alien is stuck on Earth and no one even knows he's missing. Now an alien hunter is hot on his trail.

Uh-Oh.

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Discover laughs ... thrills ... and adventures as favorite *Nickelodeon* characters star in their own

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If we keep the trial book, I'll pay the introductory price of $1.99* Then about every four weeks, send three more books on approval of course, for $9.95* that's for all three books. We may examine the books for 10 days and return any we don't want at your expense. We may cancel after accepting three shipments of three books each. And don't forget your members-only Bonus Gift. Your Nickelodeon Blimp arrives in your third shipment.

By joining, each year I will also receive on approval up to three special Nickelodeon books or other Nickelodeon items for my child to enjoy as they are made available. I will be notified prior to each shipment with details and the then-current price. I may cancel any shipment I do not wish to receive.

The two FREE BOOKS and FREE T-SHIRT are ours to keep no matter what!

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Print Child's Full Name _____

Birth Date Month ____ Day ____ Year ____ ☐ Boy ☐ Girl

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number _____

Print Your Full Name ☐ Mr ☐ Ms ☐ Mrs _____

Have you bought anything by mail in the last ☐ 6 Months ☐ Year ☐ Never Do you have a computer with a CD-ROM drive in your home? ☐ Yes ☐ No

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Museum of the Fallen Arches

No, she's not 50 feet tall. The gal with her own planet has 50 feet—and 250 toes—for you and your family to explore! Your tour guide, Dr. Scholl, will take you to the Land of the Fallen Arches and the awesome Bunion Canyon. Enjoy endless games of This Little Piggy with the ticklish 50-Foot Woman herself.

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Note: Travelers are advised to bring a 1,000-pack of Odor-Eaters.

"An educational experience for the whole family...plus all that great shopping for shoes!"
IMELDA MARCOS, Manila, Philippines

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It's a massive thr
when you come t
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for a really—and
mean REALLY—
time. Relax in ou
thimble-size hot
enjoy a dip in our teaspoon-size pool, or just
back on a grain of sand and watch the big sh
There's an all-you-can-eat shrimp dinner...an
kids will love the Sunday small-fry barbecue.
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Minimall. Your
rent-a-car
provided free by
Matchbox.

Book **four days and three nights** and you'll get free tickets to a Giants game and two rounds of miniature golf on the house!

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I. M. SMALL,
Tinytown, Iowa

"I think one of the natives had a big crush on me."
YNAMAMUE INKINITE, Brooklyn, New York

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Uh-Oh.

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If we keep the trial book, I'll pay the introductory price of $1.99*. Then, about every four weeks, send three more books, on approval of course, for $9.95* – that's for all three books. We may examine the books for 10 days and return any we don't want at your expense. We may cancel after accepting three shipments of three books each. And don't forget your members-only Bonus Gift! Your Nickelodeon Blimp arrives in your third shipment.

By joining, each year I will: also receive, on approval, up to three special Nickelodeon books or other Nickelodeon items for my child to enjoy, as they are made available. I will be notified prior to each shipment with details and the then-current price; I may cancel any shipment I do not wish to receive.

The two FREE BOOKS and FREE T-SHIRT are ours to keep no matter what!

*Plus shipping, handling and applicable sales tax. All orders subject to approval. Late charges apply to overdue payments.

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Print Child's Full Name _____

Birth Date: Month_____ Day_____ Year_____ ☐Boy ☐Girl

Address _____ Apt.

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number (___) _____

Print Your Full Name ☐ Mr ☐ Ms. ☐ Mrs. _____

Have you bought anything by mail in the last: ☐ 6 Months ☐ Year ☐ Never

Do you have a computer with a CD-ROM drive in your home? ☐ Yes ☐ No

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GROLIER BOOKS

BLAST FORWARD

Many science-fiction movies show us what the future might be like. But would you actually like to visit any of these possible tomorrows? Use this chart to figure out which future is best for you.

	IN THIS FREAKY FUTURE...	THE GOOD PART	THE BAD PART	A NICE PLACE TO VISIT?
STAR TREK including *Star Trek* (the original series), *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, *Star Trek: Deep Space 9*, and *Star Trek: Voyager* AD 2260s-2360s	...humans have spread out to the stars, and huge starships explore space.	Sliding doors that go *whoosh*, teleportation, helpful computers, rooms that create holographic fantasies, and badges that are tiny communicators	Tight Starfleet outfits really ride up. Aliens are disappointing; they look just like humans with big foreheads and weird noses.	Yes, if you like constant travel, wearing a clingy uniform, and doing the Vulcan neck pinch (which is not a dance)
THE JETSONS THE 21ST CENTURY	...the world is made up of super high-rise buildings. People zip around in flying cars, and you never see the ground.	Moving sidewalks, video phones, robot servants, and push-button everything	Frequent wacky mechanical breakdowns and sore fingers from all that button-pushing	No, if you're a nature lover or like to do things the hard way
PLANET OF THE APES AD 3955	...chimpanzees, orangutans, and gorillas with human-level intelligence rule the world and experiment on humans.	You don't have to watch television to see talking apes.	Long lines at the jungle gym, smarty-pants orangutans who think they know everything, and ape breath	Yes, if you like monkeying around; no, if you're human or allergic to bananas
ROAD WARRIOR NOT TOO LONG FROM NOW	...society has fallen apart—people dress in outlandish clothes and drive souped-up pieced-together cars.	Everybody looks like a pro wrestler and drives a monster truck.	Everybody looks like a pro wrestler and drives a monster truck.	Yes, if you think everyone looks good in a mohawk
THE MATRIX TO PEOPLE INSIDE THE MATRIX, IT'S AROUND 1997, BUT IN THE REAL WORLD IT'S AROUND 2197.	...the human race is trapped in a virtual-reality world called the Matrix.	You can download skills directly into your brain.	Your real body is imprisoned in a pod and harvested for its energy. Keanu Reeves may be the only one who can save you.	The Matrix has great video games, but the enslavement of the human race is a definite downer. It might be better just to see the movie than to actually go there.

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Watch Dog!

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NICKELODEON

100 DEEDS FOR EDDIE McDOWD

Saturdays in SNICK at 9pm*.
Premiering October 16th.

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WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

a cool dude who cleans up World Pollution and lives on mac & cheese. MMMMM!

A computer game that Plays by my rules. where I'd create aliens Who invade earth and suck up All the cows. MOOOOOOOO!

Soccer, Soccer, I'd make Soccer! an all girls league with 10 foot goalies! 'Cause I can!

the Best game ever! I'd call it Piggy Bank and raise my allowance every time I ate chocolate ice cream 'Oh Yeah!'

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With Stagecast Creator™ the only rules are the ones YOU make!
Create your own cool characters & worlds. You're in control!
Create super games, totally designed by YOU.
Interact with the worlds you build, or post 'em on the web
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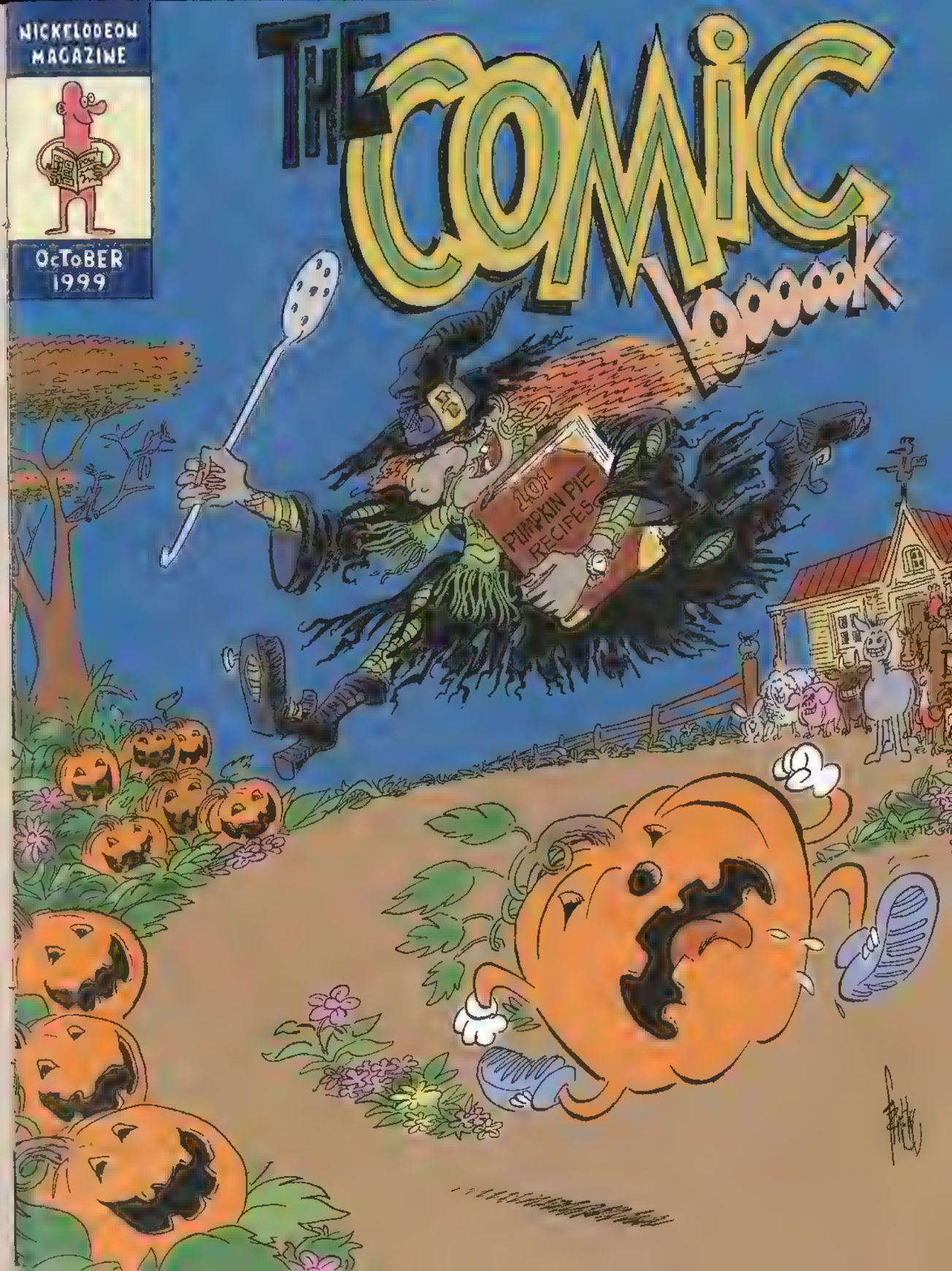
NICKELODEON MAGAZINE

OCTOBER 1999

THE COMIC book



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Kermit the Frog here, as George Washington, bringing you the biggest thing to happen to our country since Betsy Ross learned how to sew. Every state in the Nation is going to be represented by its very own quarter! The United States Mint is issuing a new quarter about every ten weeks in the order that the states joined the Union. That means five per year. Every quarter will have a different design on its back that is as beautiful as it is educational. I'm really excited about this- that's why I'm the Mint's spokesfrog!

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Front view

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Pennsylvania

New Jersey

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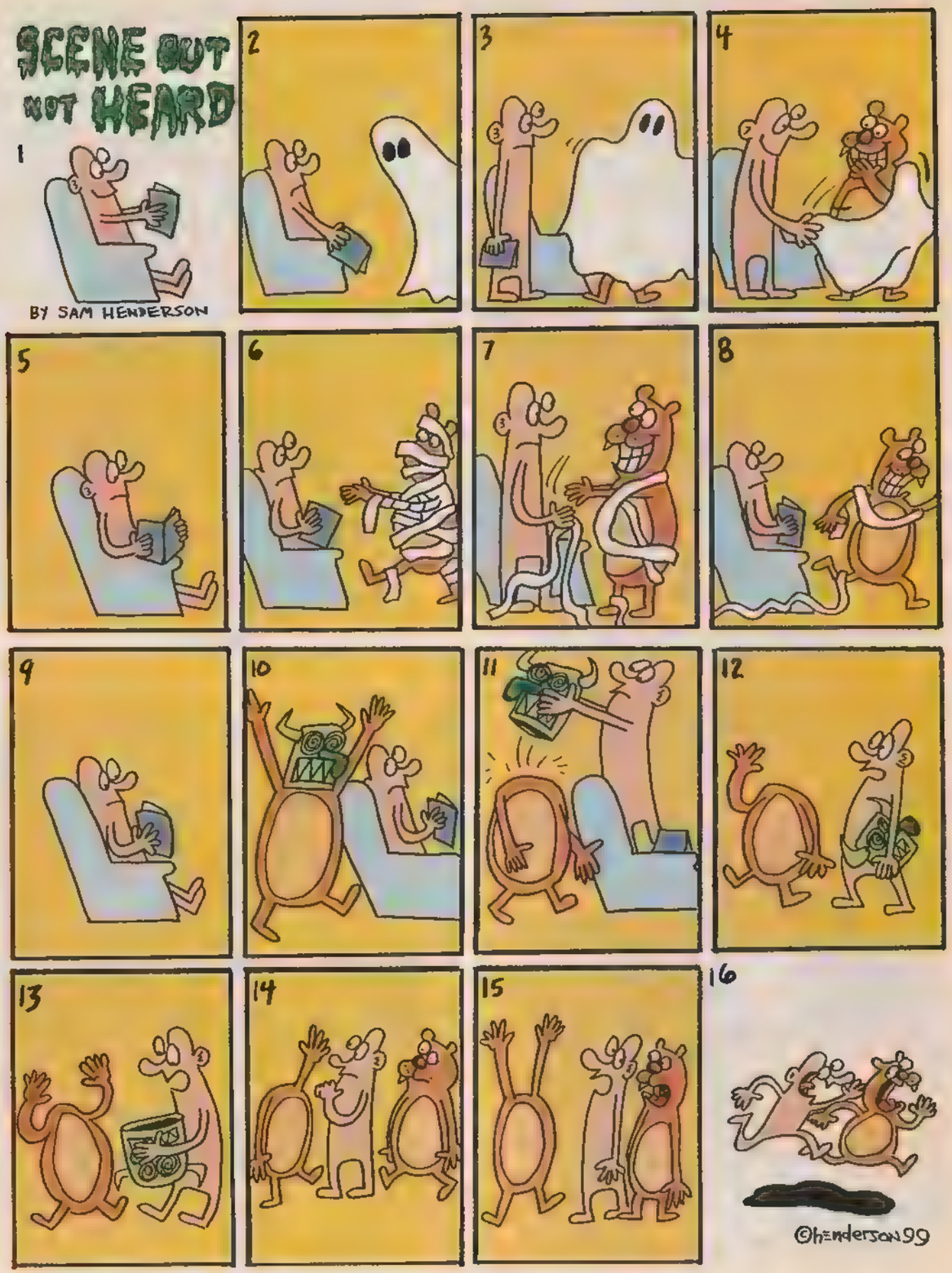
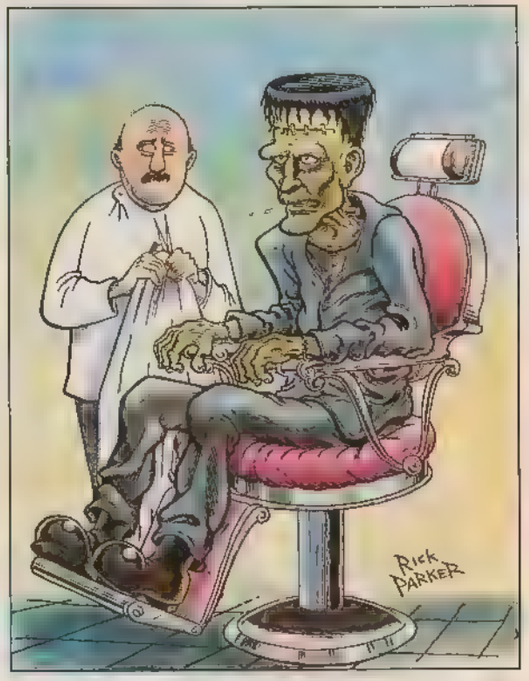


THE GAG STATION

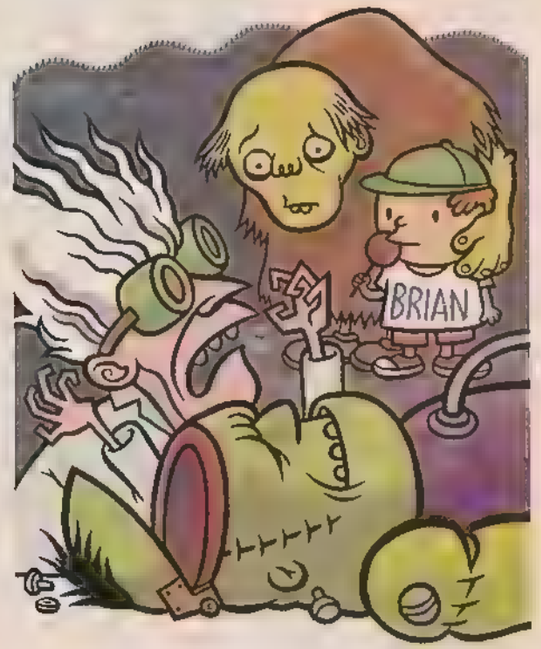
Dr. Frankenstein's monster has risen from the slab for your entertainment pleasure.

BENJAMIN FRANKLINSTEIN

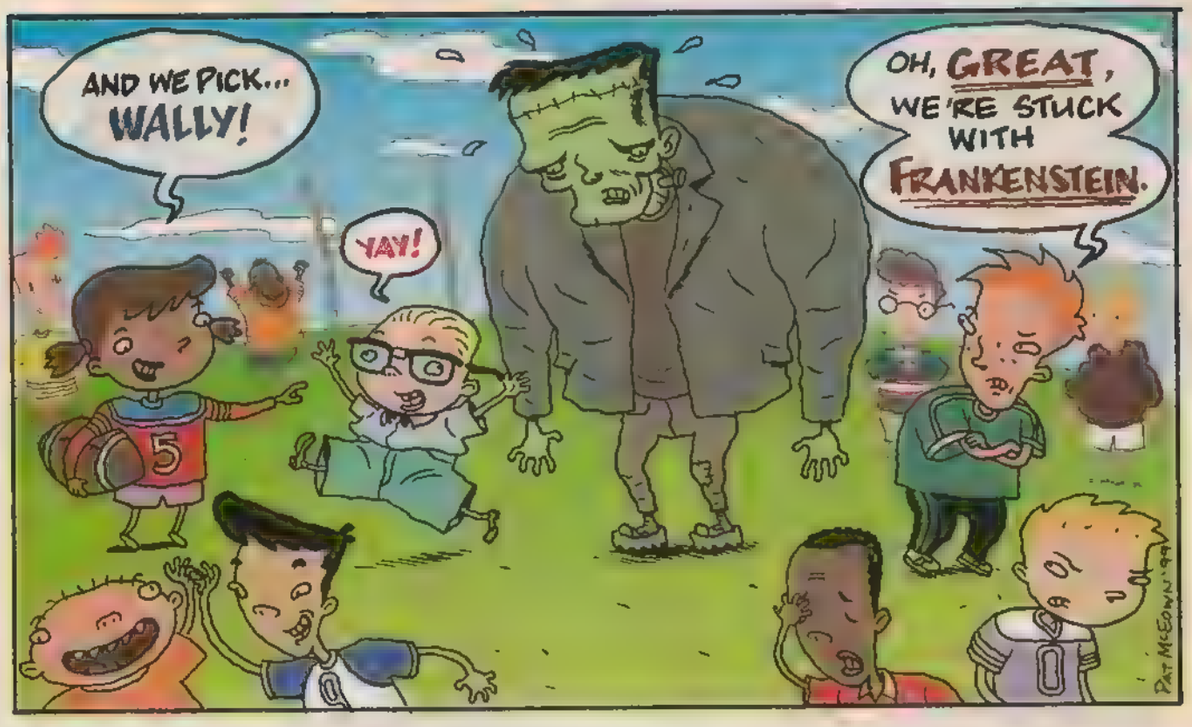


"FLATTOP."

"I TOLD YOU-YOU JUST DON'T LOOK GOOD IN TURTLENECKS."



"Igor, you numbskull! That's not what I asked for!"



"Yep...looks like he had a loose screw, all right."

EPISODE 1

Grampa + Julie: SHARK HUNTERS

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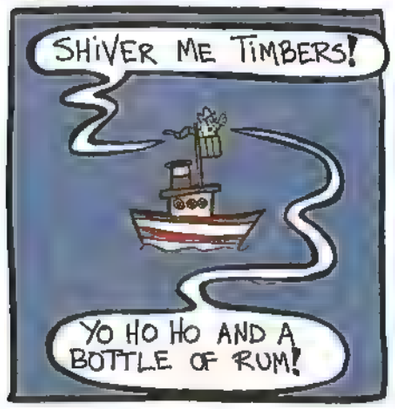
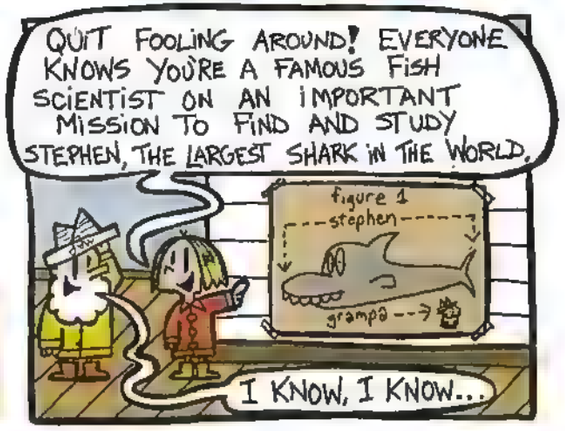
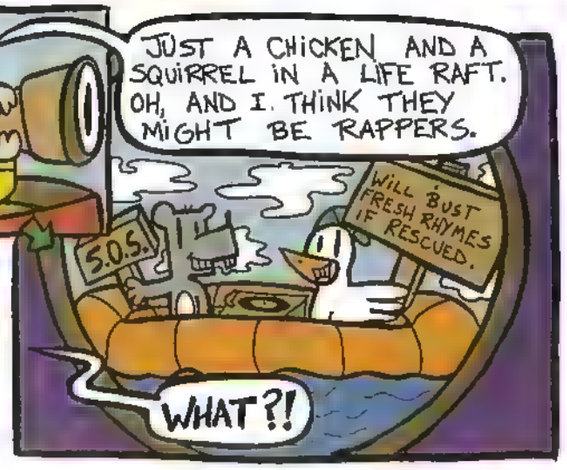
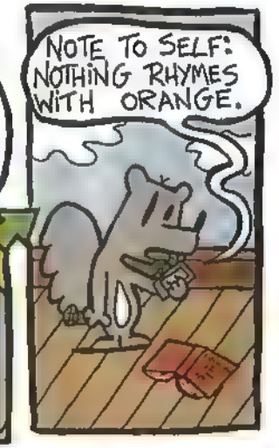
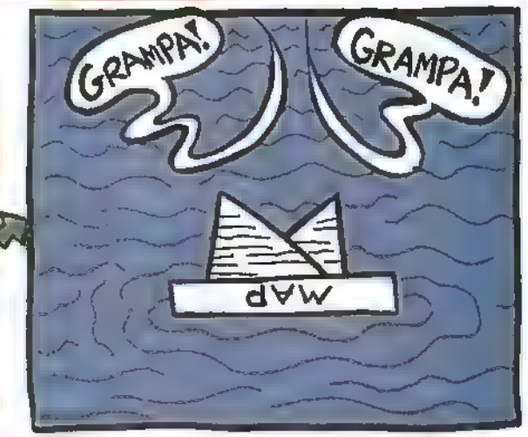
"SEARCHING THE SEAS FOR STEPHEN THE SHARK"









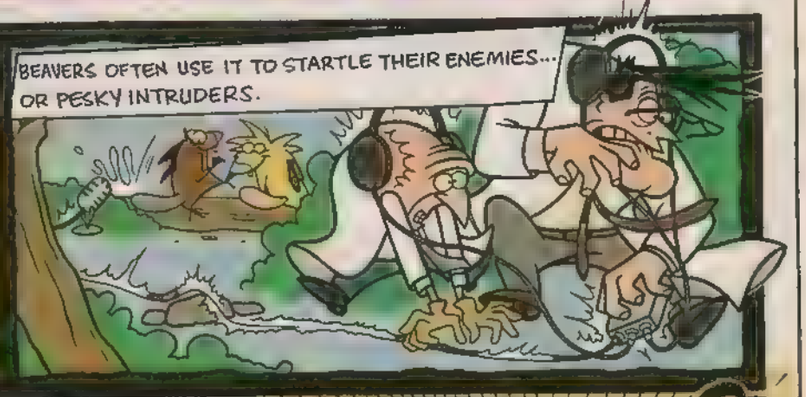


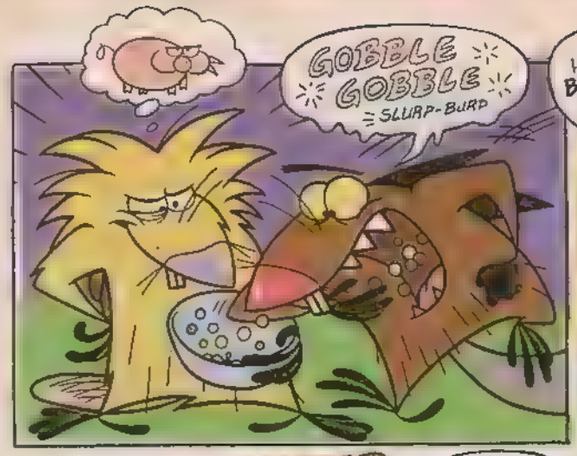
GRAMPA HAS SUNK INTO THE OCEAN! WILL JULIE BE ABLE TO FIND HIM? WHAT ABOUT STEPHEN, THE LARGEST SHARK IN THE WORLD? AND DOES ANYTHING **REALLY** RHYME WITH ORANGE? FIND OUT IN NEXT ISSUE'S **GRAMPA AND JULIE: SHARK HUNTERS!**

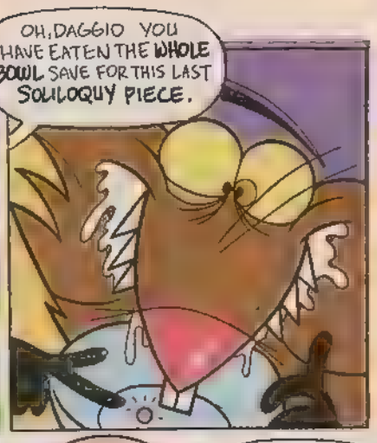
The ANGRY BEAVERS

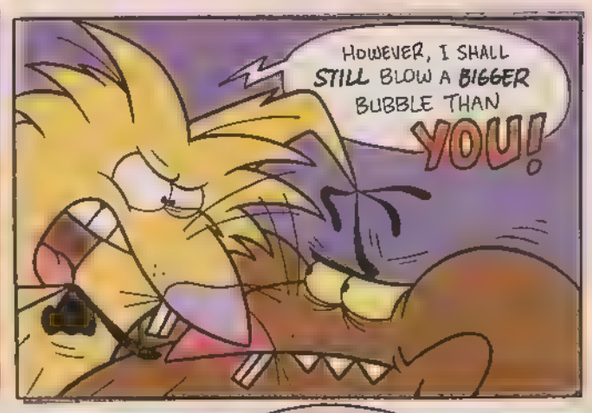
CREATED BY Craig McCracken

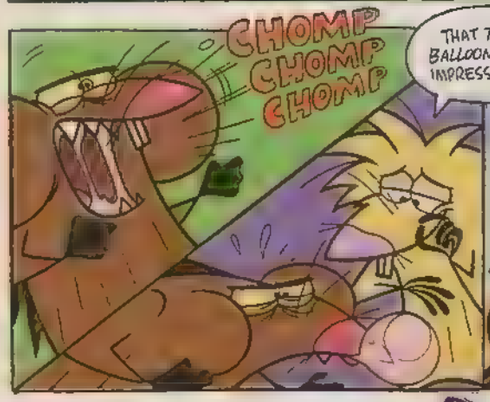
THE SLAP OF A BEAVER TAIL IS VERY LOUD... AS LOUD AS A LARGE TREE HITTING THE WATER.

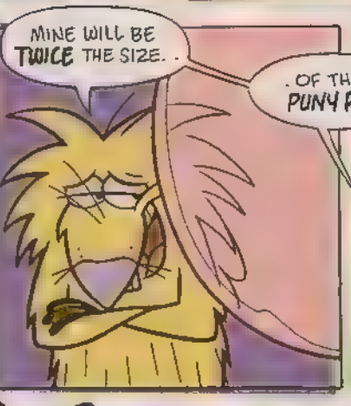


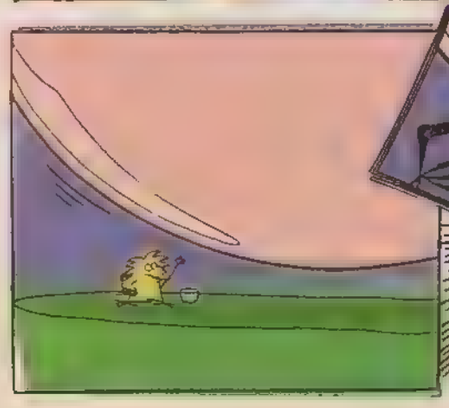


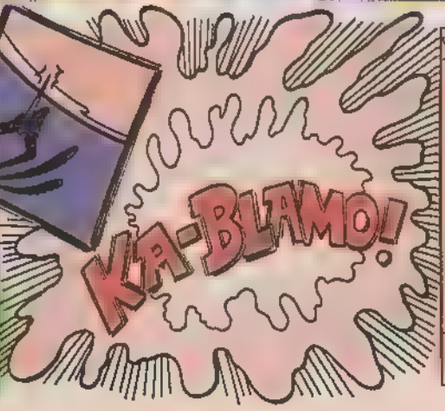


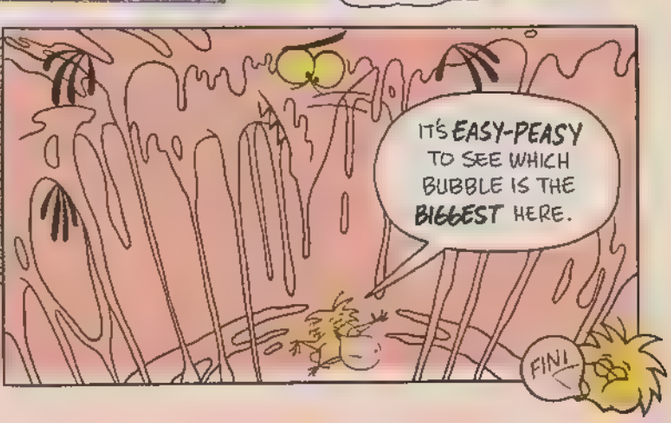












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Solution on page 78.

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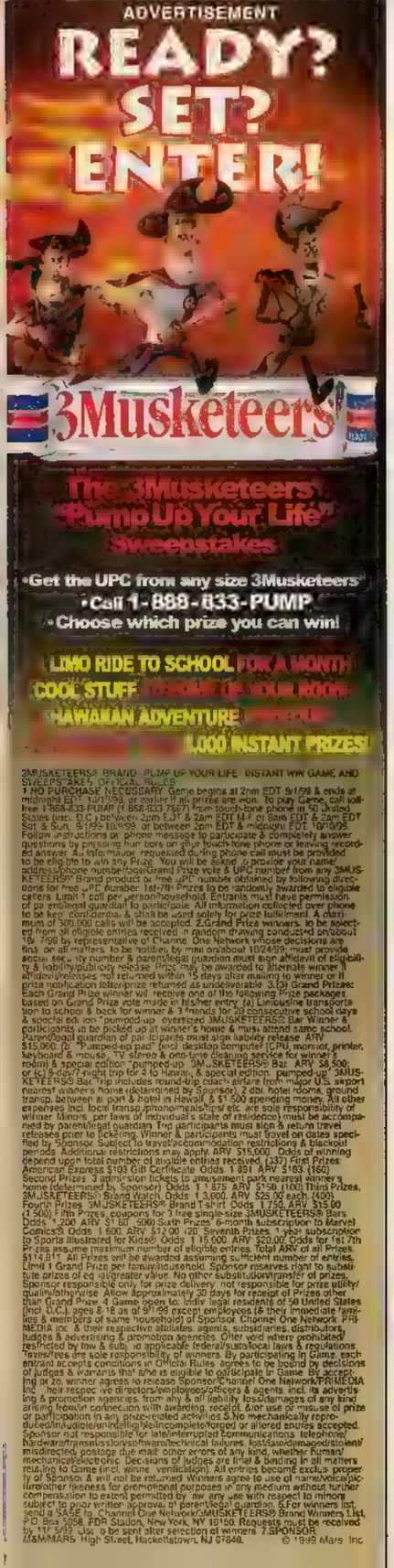


Tricks for More Treats

Double your loot this Halloween with these candy-snagging suggestions.

- Wear one costume on the left half of your body and another on the right, and ask for candy for each side.
  - Show adults your baby picture and ask if you can have extra sweets for being such a cute baby.
- Go as a doctor and tell people that your blood-sugar level is crashing and you need extra chocolate bars—STAT!
  - Carry a bag in each hand and explain that your doctor said you must carry exactly the same amount of weight in each arm so they grow evenly. (This means you must get two of every treat.)
- Say you're starting a candy museum and you need to collect as many samples as possible.
  - Tell candy-givers that there's a kid coming who goes berserk after eating too much sugar, and they can prevent that from happening by giving you all of their sweets.

If all else fails, bag.

ADVERTISEMENT

STICK YOUR NOSE IN IT

Follow your nose to our nose masks on the next page. Then perform the play below with three or four friends in nose costume.

A NOSE for the NEWS

Cut out the nose masks on the right and follow the directions to fit them to your nose. You'll need five people to perform the play, including one to be the maskless narrator, or four people if one person alternates between narrator and a nose-mask wearer.

NARRATOR: Tonight, on a very special Halloween edition of *A Nose for the News*, we bring you a new segment called "Nose Jobs," detailing the lives of four individuals who support themselves with their sense of smell. Let's talk to our first guest, Mr. Bootsy Clawlins. Bootsy, tell us about your amazing schnoz.

BOOTSY: Well, it's hundreds of times more sensitive than the human nose, and it helps me find garbage to eat. I always know if something's fishy at least fifty feet before I get to it.

NARRATOR: Fascinating. And you, Mr. Impaler?

VLAD: Please! Call me Vlad. Well, my nose is also verrrry, verrrry sensitive. Especially to bluuddddddd.

NARRATOR: Bluuddddddd?

VLAD: For example, I can tell you have type O blood.

NARRATOR: Positive?

VLAD: Indeed.

NARRATOR: Moving on...say, Mr. Boskis, you're some kind of robot. Do you even *have* a sense of smell?

BOSKIS: Actually, my artificial nose is quite adept at sensing rust. It's my job to seek out rusted machinery in candy factories.

NARRATOR: So you're a pro, Boskis?

BOSKIS: Yes.

NARRATOR: And now for our last guest. I'm not sure how you got on the show, Mr. Zombie Abe Lincoln. So let me just ask you, if every part of your body is technically dead, how do you smell?

ZOMBIE ABE LINCOLN: Awful!

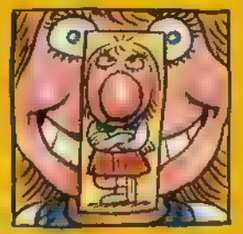
These I could do without

TO MAKE YOUR NOSE MASK:

1. Carefully tear out a mask along the dotted lines.
2. Gently fold the mask in half.

3. Tear a small hole along the dotted line in the center of the mask.

4. Unfold the mask and place it on your nose. If the hole is too small, refold the mask and make the hole slightly larger. Repeat until the mask fits.



Illustrations by Rick Meyerowitz, the creator of nose masks and of the new book *Return of the Nose Masks*.

NOSE MASKS

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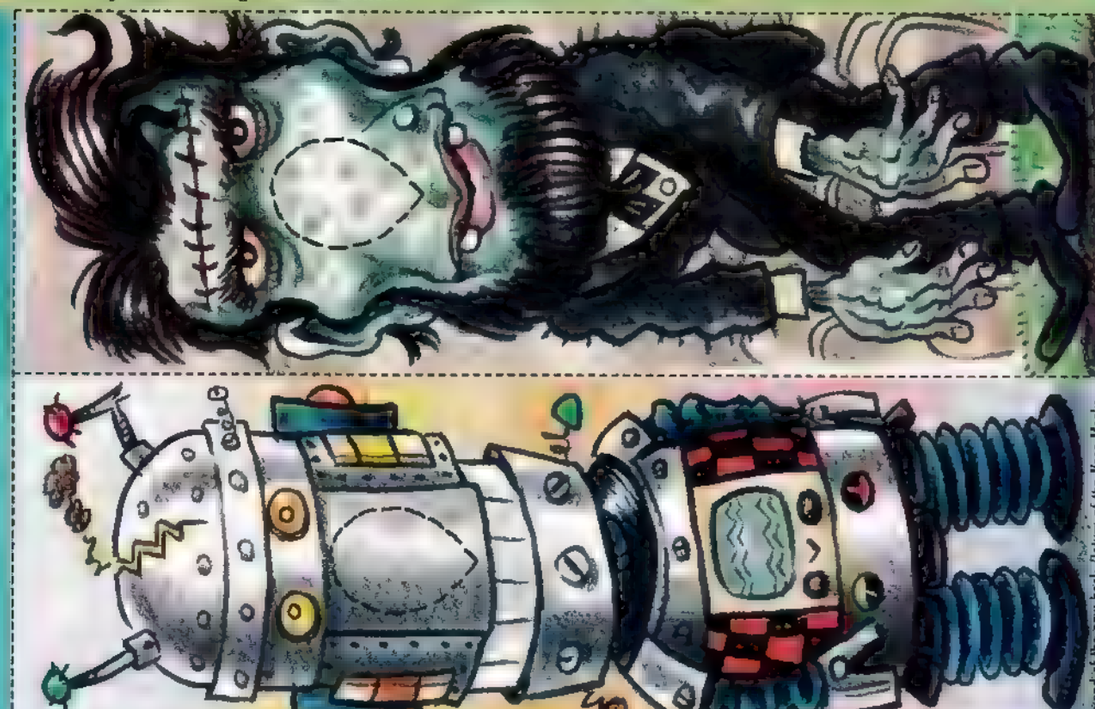

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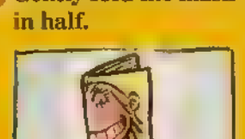

3. Tear a small hole along the dotted line in the center of the mask.

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the new book *Return of the Nose Masks*.

ZOMBIE ARE LINCOLN

VLAD

NOSE MASKS

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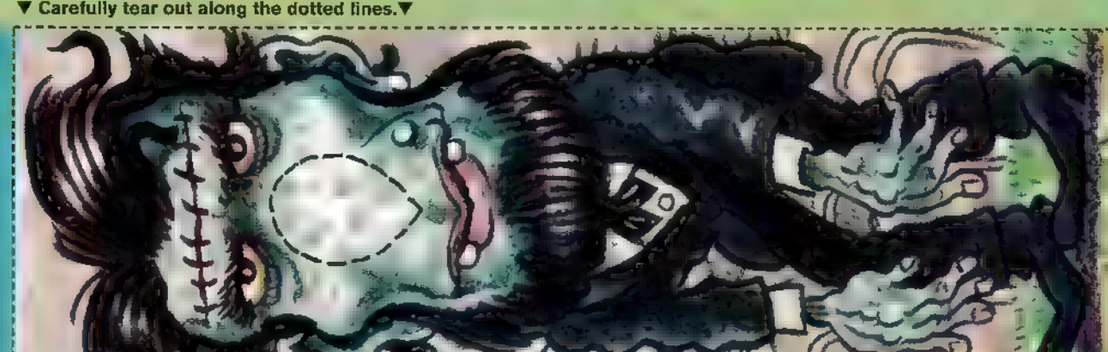

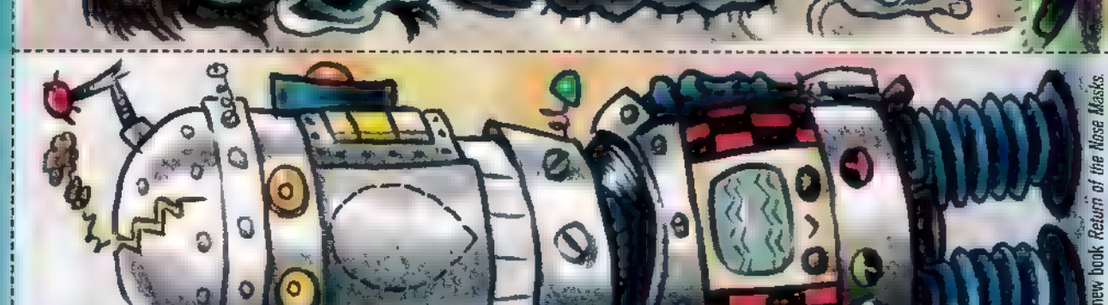

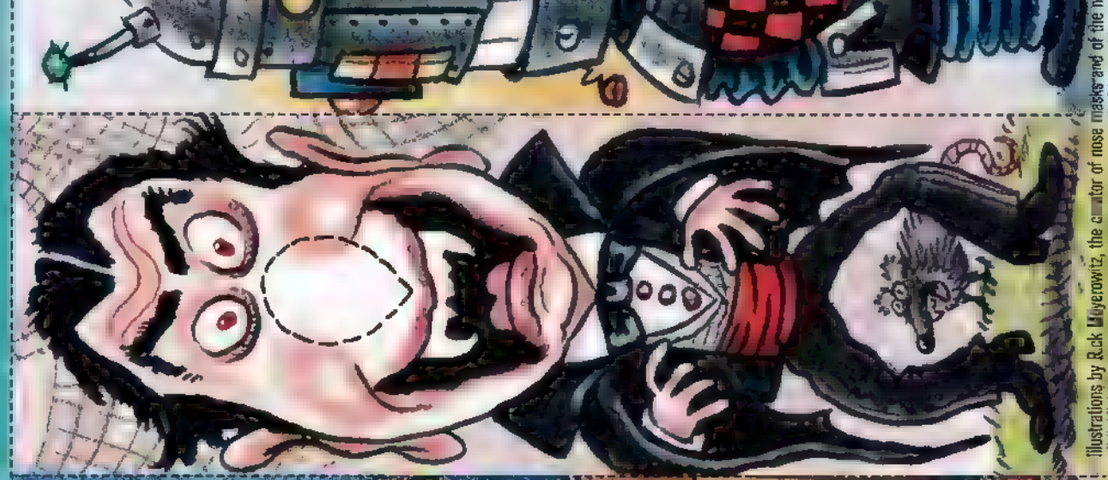

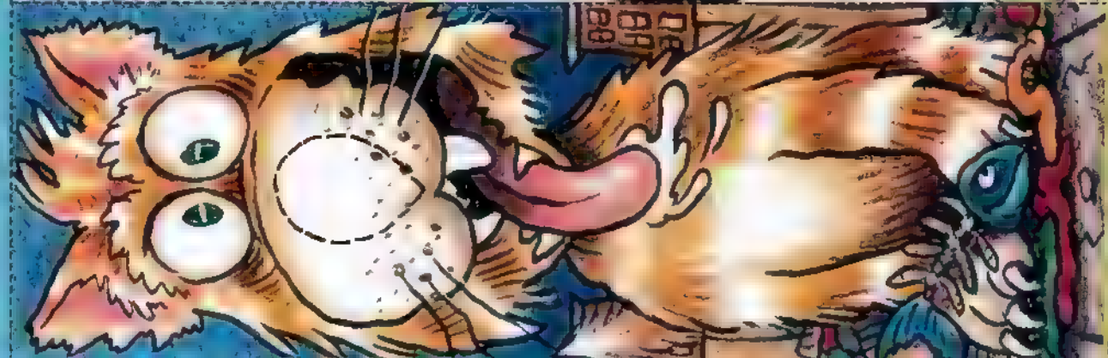

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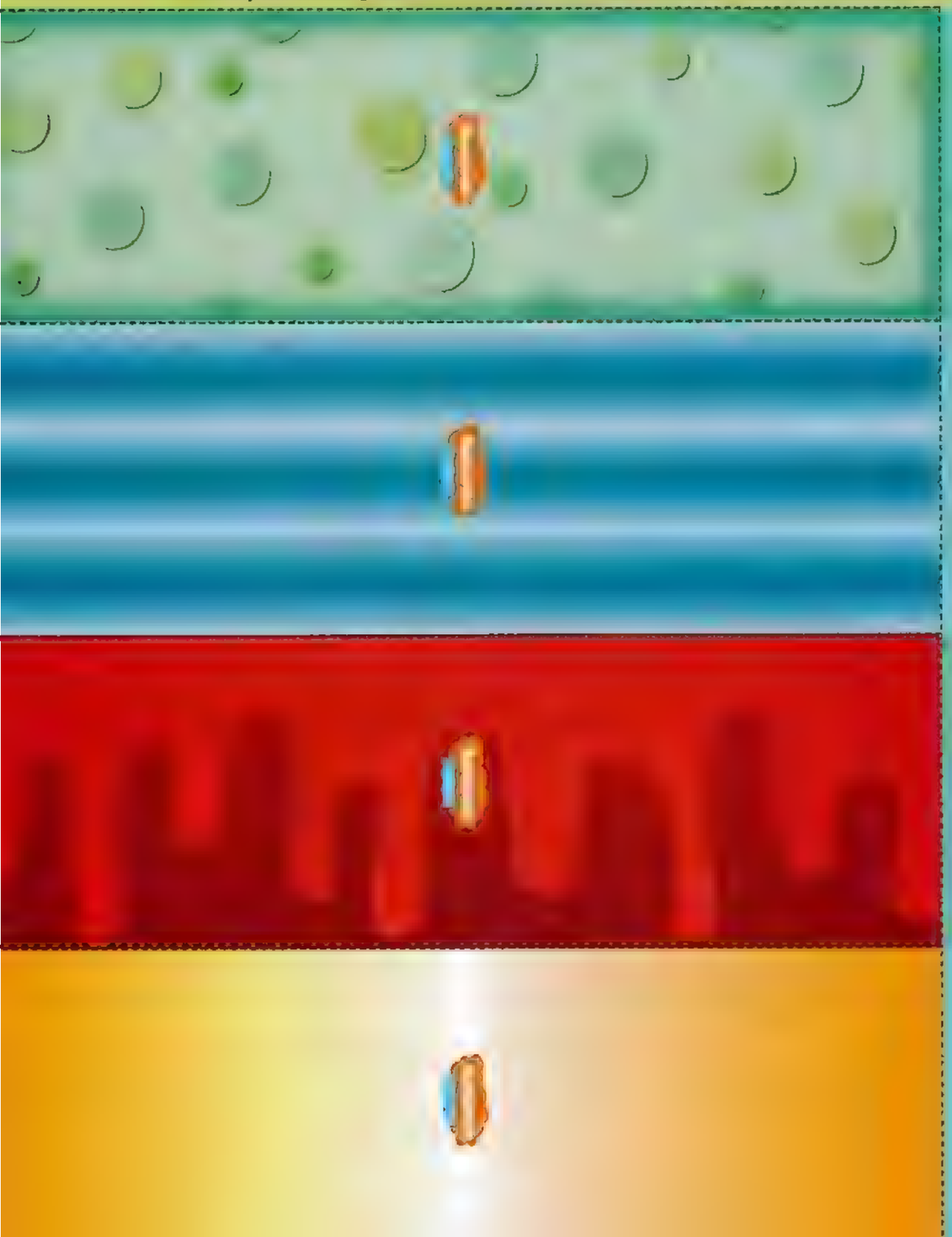

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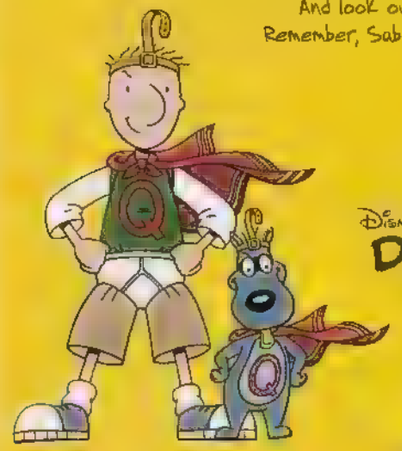
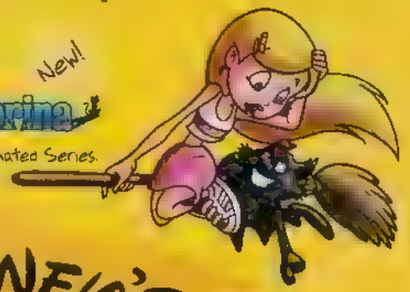
Remember, Sabrina has joined the gang... surprises are part of her job.





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Disney's

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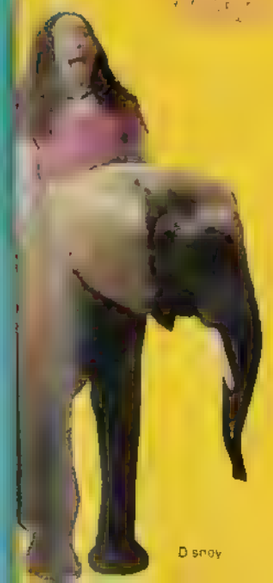
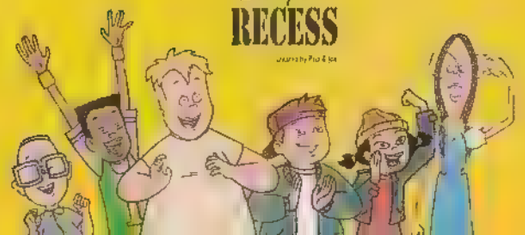
abc Check local listings for time.



Disney's PEPPER ANN

Disney's RECESS



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THE SIBLING FROM SPACE

Your brother or sister may often act quite strange. How can you be sure he or she is even a human being? Take this test to determine whether your sibling is a human, a robot, or an alien.

1 When your brother or sister was brought home for the very first time, he or she came out of:
A. a car.
B. a large box packed with Styrofoam and Bubble Wrap.
C. the sky.

2 Your sibling's favorite snack is:
A. potato chips.
B. computer chips.
C. children named Chip.

3 When your sibling goes to a party, he or she spends the most time talking to:
A. other guests.
B. the toaster oven.
C. a houseplant.

4 If the math teacher asked your brother or sister to multiply 5,673 by 4,298, he or she would probably:
A. admit it's too hard.
B. print the answer out of his or her forehead in a second.
C. breathe fire onto the teacher's pointer.

5 Your sibling addresses your parents as:
A. "Mom and Dad."
B. "American Robotics Corp."
C. "O great and fearless King Voltaro and Queen Zandara."

6 Your sibling's favorite music is:
A. slow jams or top 40.
B. heavy metal.
C. static interference from Quadrant 3.

7 After playing soccer, your brother or sister likes to drink:
A. a sports drink.
B. a can of motor oil.
C. Lake Huron.

8 Your brother or sister thinks the new microwave in the kitchen is:
A. great for making popcorn.
B. the new family pet.
C. a device for communicating with the mother ship.

9 Your parents are always reminding your sibling to:
A. take out the garbage.
B. vacuum the house with his or her nose.
C. stop making long-distance calls to Uranus.

10 At a fast-food restaurant, your brother or sister usually:
A. eats a hamburger and fries.
B. asks the cash register out on a date.
C. heats up the food with his or her eyes.

11 Your sibling slightly resembles:
A. you.
B. the Tin Man.
C. Jar Jar Binks.

12 Ever since your brother or sister joined the family, you've noticed that the neighborhood:
A. is very much the same.
B. has had many power outages.
C. is glowing.

COUNT UP THE NUMBER OF *A*s, *B*s, AND *C*s YOU CHOSE.

If you have mostly *A* answers:
Good news! Your sibling is only human after all.

If you have mostly *B* answers:
Maybe you could trade in your robot brother or sister for a friendlier upgrade?

Mostly *C* answers?
EVACUATE!
EVACUATE!
EVACUATE!

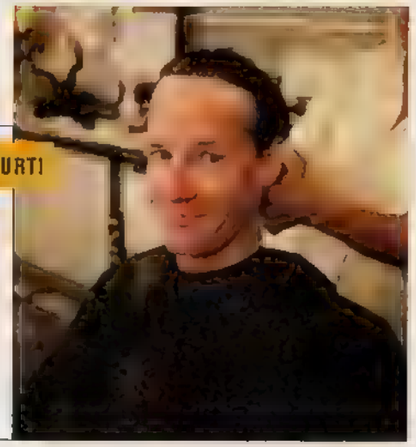
ALIEN FOR A DAY

Real

To find out what it's like to be an alien, David Lewman joined the cast of* Star Trek: Voyager *as an extra.

1 MY TREK TO STARDOM

Bright and early in the morning, I arrive at Paramount Studios in Hollywood, where they shoot *Star Trek: Voyager.* I'm here to play a Klingon in the episode "Barge of the Dead." I'll appear in only one scene—as a guard aboard a ship of dishonored Klingons. Make me a fierce Klingon warrior!



2 OW! THESE BOBBY PINS HURT!

My first stop is the hair trailer, where Josee the hairstylist pins my hair up and gives me tiny pigtails *(right).* Then she tugs a cap of black panty hose onto my head. Hmm...are pigtails and panty hose really going to make me look tough?

3 SUZANNE PICKS MY NOSE

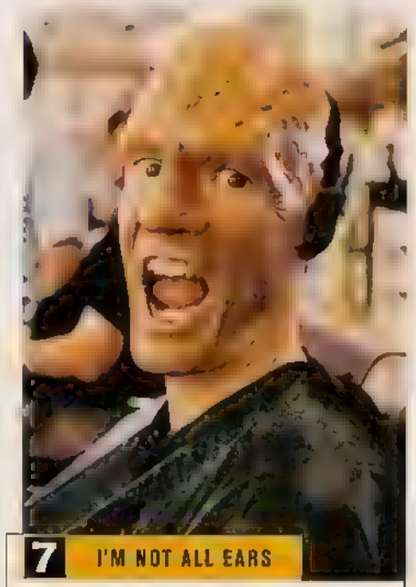
Next I meet Suzanne, a makeup artist, who takes me to a room where they keep spare noses made of foam rubber. (You can see some on the wall behind me, *left.*) She chooses a nice pointy one and trims it to fit my schnoz.

4 THEY'RE ALL EARS

The nose room also has hand-molded rubber masks for other aliens, such as the big-eared Ferengi *(left).* Maybe I should have been a Ferengi instead? Nah, I couldn't afford the Q-Tips.

5 FOREHEAD FITTING

Suzanne and I move to the makeup trailer, where she glues on a bumpy foam-rubber forehead and my new nose. She also sticks a cool three-piece scar on my cheek because I'm playing a bad Klingon who has been branded like a cow.



7 I'M NOT ALL EARS

Suzanne also paints my ears black so they won't show under my wig. Wait a minute...wig?

CONTINUED

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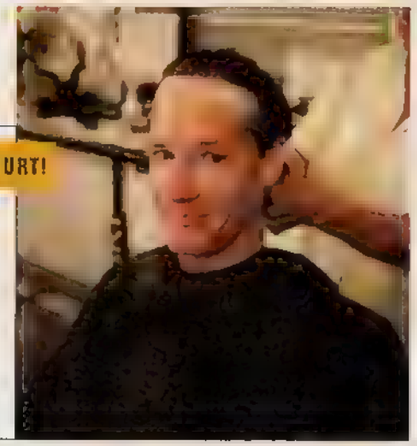

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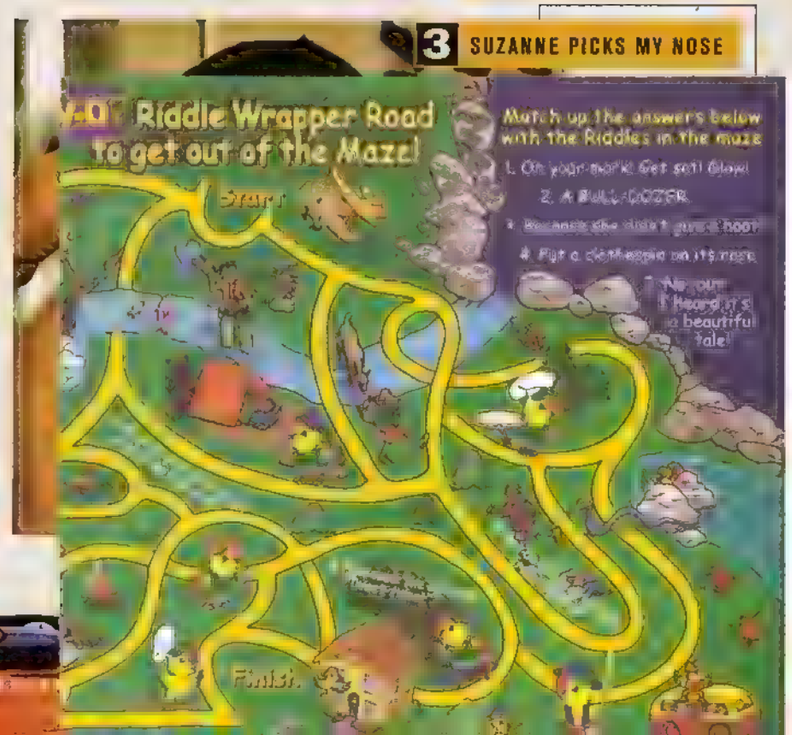

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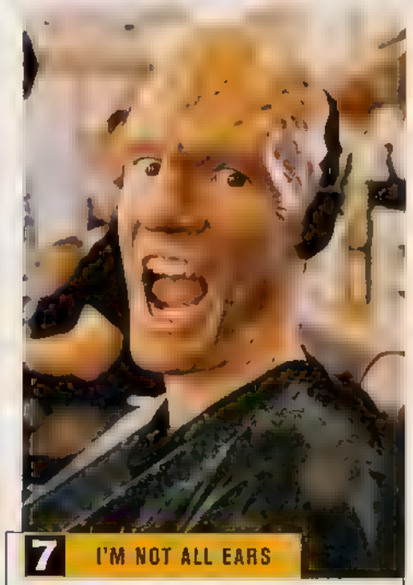
6 COLOR MY KLINGON

Next she applies my makeup. She sponges some on first and then uses an airbrush to spray paint on my face, neck, and hands. I feel like a model car.



7 I'M NOT ALL EARS

Suzanne also paints my ears black so they won't show under my wig. Wait a minute...wig?

CONTINUED

8 HAIRY TODAY, GONE TOMORROW

I head back to the hair trailer, where Josee glues on a thick Klingon wig made of real human hair. Each wig costs $3,000 to $4,000. Gosh, I feel pretty.

9 BOOTING UP

My wig and I return to Suzanne for matching bushy eyebrows. I've been here a couple of hours and it's already lunchtime, so I take a break. After eating, I go to the wardrobe department for stretchy pants and Klingon boots. Notice the pointy toe on top *(above)*: On each foot, Klingons have three toes—or should I say claws?

10 KLINGON CLIQUE

It's not time to shoot my scene yet, so I hang out with my fellow Klingon extras. We wear our hair pinned up because it's hot outside. Hey, how come I'm the only one without a beard?

11 GIVE ME YOUR LIP

Only when the assistant director says it's time for my scene does Suzanne give me some facial hair. She carefully glues on my mustache. Then she puts on a beard that I picked, with little dreadlocks and beads. This is more like it!

Klingon to your day job.

12 ALL MADE-UP AND SOMEWHERE TO GO

Do I look scary or what? Now I just have to put on my hot, heavy costume—and let my hair down.

13 KNOCK, KNOCK

Fully dressed, I finally get to go through the stage door and act like a Klingon.

14 DON'T MESS WITH ME—I'M A KLINGON!

Through the magic of makeup, I look slightly different than when I started. (Compare this picture to the first one.) Hey, I think I look better this way! ❑

***Voyager*'s chief engineer B'Elanna Torres (Roxann Dawson, *above left*) talks to her mother Miral (Karen Austin) in a scene from "Barge of the Dead."**

EXTRA! EXTRA!

"Barge of the Dead," the *Star Trek: Voyager* episode in which David appears, will air October 6 on UPN.* Look for David near the end of the show. He plays one of the guards who walks Miral *(see photo, above)* up a flight of stairs to the captain's steering wheel.

*Show date subject to change. Check local listings for details.

Search Party

You just showed up at a Halloween party...but it looks as if there's no one here! Are your friends' costumes *too* good? Below is a list of kids who are at the party. Can you figure out where everyone is? For example, your friend Penny is the penny we circled on the round table. Answers on page 78.

Mike	Penny	Matt	Bill	Pearl	Frank	Patty	Ruby	Jay	Rod
Jack	Art	Holly	John	Crystal	Candy	Daisy	Lily	Rose	Ivy

by Andrew Bauman

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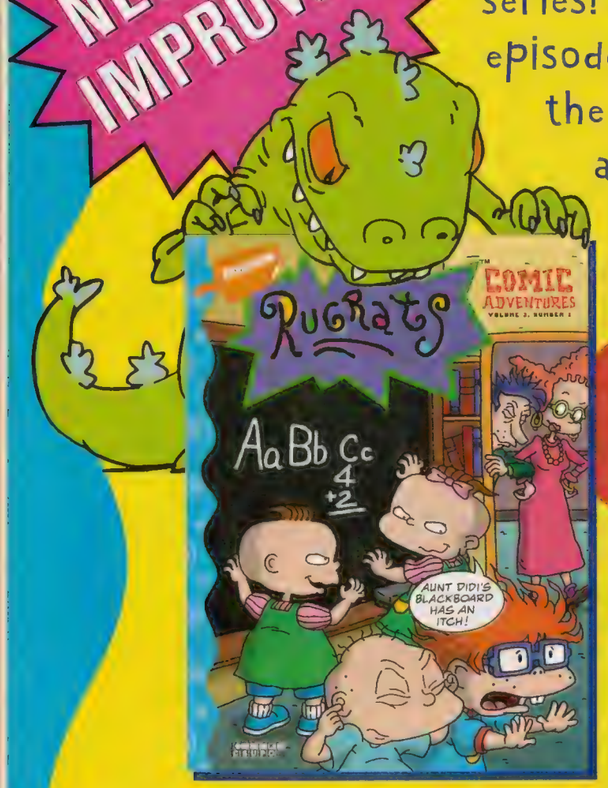

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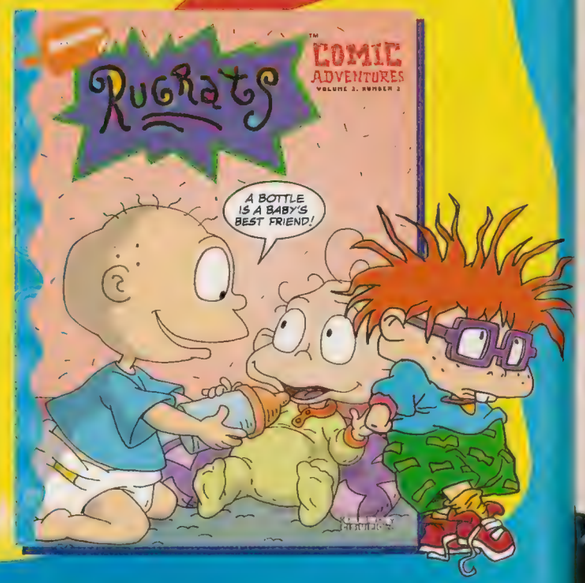

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Make Your Own

TALES *From the* BOILER ROOM

EXPERIMENTS IN FEAR

As told to Maria D. Rosado

Excuse me, but could you move your finger? I'm Edgar, the custodian here at Usher Middle School, and I'm afraid I need to clean that exact spot on the page. Ah, thank you! Now, since you've been so kind to me, maybe I could do you a little favor. So here's a tip: STAY AWAY FROM THE BOILER ROOM! Students who go down there have a nasty habit of...well, the stories I could tell! In fact, here are two of my favorites. They're about two seventh-graders named Ted and Jess who haven't learned to keep their noses out of other people's business.

Unfortunately, the fan in the boiler room blew the pages around, so the stories are all mixed up. You'll have to choose a beginning, a middle, and an ending for each story. There are eight possible combinations. Read them carefully or you might get sent to detention—in THE BOILER ROOM!

BEGINNINGS

A

"Is it just my imagination, or has something weird been going on around here lately?" Ted asked Jess during chemistry class. As usual, the chemistry teacher, Dr. Stankenfrein, had been making kids come in after school for extra-credit work. But now these kids were becoming straight-A students overnight. Even stranger, Ted said he could swear some of them managed to be in two places at once. Jess confirmed that yesterday a kid named Jason was delivering a note to her English teacher at the exact time he was taking a test in Ted's math class. Equally strange, she swore she heard Principal Duff squeal the other day.

"Let's stake out the school tonight," Jess suggested, "and find out if Dr. S. is up to something." When school was over, Ted and Jess hid in the chemistry room's broom closet. They were amazed when, just after the final bell, Dr. S. appeared and opened a trapdoor hidden under his desk. Ted and Jess followed quietly on tiptoe down a spiral staircase to the hissing boiler room directly underneath...

continued→

BEGINNINGS

B

It wasn't fair. Ted and Jess hadn't let the class guinea pig out of its cage on purpose. But now Principal Duff was making them take detention with Dr. Stankenfrein, the chemistry teacher. Unfortunately, Dr. Stankenfrein lived up to his name: His weird experiments made him stinky beyond belief. Luckily, Dr. S. wasn't in his lab when Ted and Jess showed up, so they snuck off to the playground.

"Have you ever noticed just how bizarre this playground is?" Jess asked, looking around. There were no swings or tire tunnels, just a lot of strange metal shapes sticking up out of the ground, which kids used as slides.

"Yeah. And doesn't it look like there's a weird glow at the base of those metal things?" Ted asked Jess.

"Yup. I think we should find out what's under them," Jess said, grabbing a stick.

They started to dig and soon heard an odd squealing noise coming from underground. Suddenly, the hole opened up onto a large cavern. As Ted and Jess leaned in for a better look, the ground gave way under their feet and they plummeted down the dark hole. They landed in a room they knew all too well: the dreaded boiler room...

MIDDLES

1

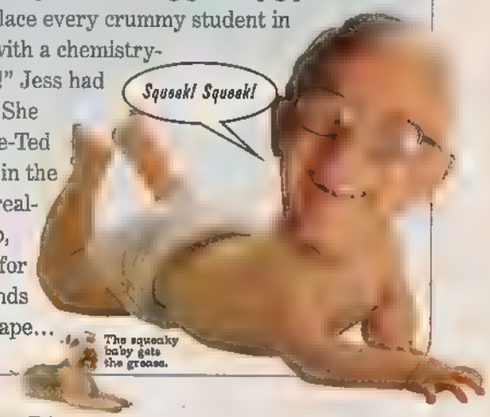
...The room was empty, but Ted and Jess immediately noticed a big jagged crack in the floor and crawled in to see where it led. Soon they were in an underground room, and they could hardly believe what was going on there: Principal Duff was using a Weedwacker to clear moss from what looked like a giant spaceship while Dr. S. bossed him around. Even weirder, Duff made a squealing sound every now and then. The spiky metal top of the ship seemed to glow as it disappeared into the room's ceiling. "So that's what the bizarre playground equipment is made of," Jess whispered to Ted.

Suddenly, Dr. S. noticed them and started wailing, "No! You can't see this! It's my secret!" He babbled on about how he had discovered a spaceship near the school and was trying to get inside so he could learn the aliens' language. "Duff here is convinced they speak like pigs. But I'm sure their language is based on math formulas. Once I master it, I'll use the secrets of their weapons to take over the science department...the school... and the world!" he cackled madly. "I'll force everyone to take chemistry forever! And I won't let you two C students stop me! After them, Duff!" Ted and Jess ran as fast as they could, with Dr. S. and Duff close behind...

2

...The room was filled with smelly steam, and Ted and Jess quickly lost sight of each other. Jess bumped against a table and then screamed; lying on top was a whining baby who looked oddly like Principal Duff. Then Duff himself appeared, rushing around the room and making a horrible squealing sound. "Ted!" Jess screamed. "Over here!" Ted called back. Stumbling toward him, Jess suddenly felt arms grab her: It was Dr. S.! Jess struggled until she felt another set of arms pull at her. It was Ted—or was it?

Jess realized in horror there were two Teds in the room. The real Ted was lying unconscious on a table nearby. "Yes, I've cloned your friend," Dr. S. said. "I found plans for a cloning machine in the wreck of an alien spaceship that landed near here." Dr. S. looked sadly at Duff. "His clone was a failure, so I had to fix him after the experiment using guinea-pig parts. But soon I'll replace every crummy student in this school with a chemistry-loving clone!" Jess had other ideas. She pushed clone-Ted into a crack in the floor. Then real-Ted woke up, just in time for the two friends to try to escape...



ENDINGS

Y

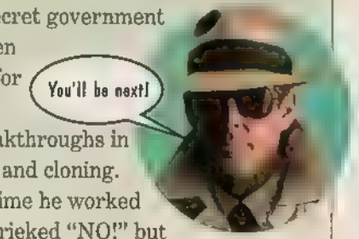
...Ted and Jess were so busy running around the boiler room and Dr. S. and Duff were so busy chasing, no one noticed the alien creatures pouring out of the crack in the floor. Suddenly, the four humans were surrounded. Ted, Jess, and Duff all cowered in fear, but Dr. S. approached the aliens with open arms. "Finally, intelligent life in this school!" he cried. The aliens smiled. Then one of them began to sing, "Here's the story of a man named Brady...his mission, to seek out new life and new civilizations." Then the alien shouted, "Vanna, show them what they've won!" Dr. S. couldn't believe it—the aliens' language wasn't based on formulas, it was based on reruns! And Dr. S. *hated* TV!

"I guess they've been watching too much Earth TV," Jess giggled. Dr. S. tried to run but the aliens scooped him up, saying, "We need a contestant from the audience!" The aliens carried him to their underground ship and the vehicle took off. Ted and Jess looked at each other in stunned relief. Duff just squealed.

THE END

Z

...But they couldn't find their way out. Suddenly the door to the boiler room swung open. Men in dark suits swept in and rounded up Duff and Dr. S. Two of the men jumped through the crack in the floor and returned seconds later with a clone of Ted. "What's going on?" the real Ted yelled. One of the men explained that they were part of a secret government unit that had been watching Dr. S. for years. "He has made major breakthroughs in alien technology and cloning. We decided it's time he worked for us." Dr. S. shrieked "NO!" but was dragged away as the men took his experiments and sealed off the crack. "If you talk about what you've seen, you'll be next," they hissed at Ted and Jess on their way out.



After that, things seemed to return to normal at school, although Duff was never able to say anything more than *"Eeeek."* And Ted suddenly started doing really well in chemistry. They had taken away the right Ted, hadn't they?

THE END

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LIVIN' LA VIDA SOSA

Real

Baseball player Sammy Sosa has been swinging his bat in the major leagues since 1989. Last year he hit 66 home runs for the Chicago Cubs and was named the National League's Most Valuable Player. Andrew Santella threw some questions at him.

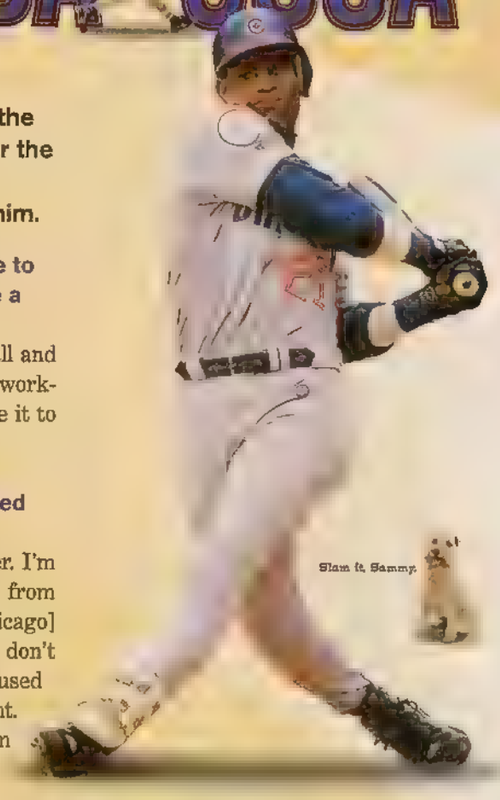
NICKELODEON MAGAZINE: Was it hard to leave your home in the Dominican Republic at age sixteen when you were signed by the Texas Rangers?
SAMMY SOSA: Yes. The hardest part was not knowing how to speak the language. Plus, I was away from my family for the first time.

Was baseball a big part of your life growing up?
Not really. I didn't start playing until I was fourteen.

How did you get started?
My brother Luis told me I should be playing ball in this one league. I was working—shining shoes, trying to help my mother—but I started playing.

What advice would you give to a kid who wants to become a good hitter?
Keep your attention on the ball and stay with the ball. If you keep working hard, you'll be able to take it to the next level.

How has your game improved since you became a pro?
Well, I'm just all-around better. I'm a completely different hitter from when I played for the [Chicago] White Sox [from 1990-92]. I don't swing at every pitch the way I used to. I've learned to be more patient. I'm more disciplined and I'm more relaxed.



Slam it, Sammy.

That brick wall in the outfield of the Chicago Cubs' Wrigley Field looks hard. Have you ever run into it while fielding the ball?
A couple of times.

Were you injured?
No, no.

You received so much attention last year for your home runs. Do you think people expect you to break records all the time now?
I don't know if that's ever going to happen again. I can't take it for granted that it will.

Do you ever feel like you're not doing a good job if you don't hit home runs?
I understand that when the fans come to the park, they want to see home runs. But there are lots of ways to help win games. You can make a great catch, steal a base, or throw a runner out.

Of all the honors you received last year, which one stands out the most?
I think the most special was when they had Sammy Sosa Day here at Wrigley Field. That was very special, not something you see every day. ❑

October

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Real

October is National Roller-Skating Month.

1 *Night of the Living Dead* premieres in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 1968. It was a night to *dismember*.

2

5 Buffalo Roundup: Custer, South Dakota. Will the buffalo gals come out tonight?

6

7 Roller Skate Reality #1: Roller-skating started in Europe in the 1700s as a way to extend the ice-skating season

9 Chowder-Fest begins in Mystic Seaport, Connecticut. Be happy as a clam.

11 Steve Young, quarterback, born, 1961. He was pretty *Young* that day.

Columbus Day

14 Usher, singer, born, 1978. You make me wanna...burp.

15 Roller Skate Reality #2: John Joseph Merlin invented a pair of roller skates in 1760 that had one row of wheels, like today's in-line skates.

16 Flea, bass player for the Red Hot Chili Peppers, born, 1962. Did he want to grow up and join the flea circus?

17

18 Chuck Berry, singer and guitarist, born 1926. His mother rocked and rolled him.

19 Roller Skate Reality #3: In-line skating is the fastest-growing sport in the United States.

20 Chris Carter, creator of *The X-Files*, born, 1957. When he was born, they broke the *Mulder*.

21 Great Pumpkin Carve in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania. There'll be hordes for gourds.

22 Louisiana State Fair begins. If you come, we'll *bayou* something.

25 Roller Skate Reality #4: John Joseph Merlin first wore his new skates to a party, but he didn't know how to stop and crashed into a mirror.

26 Gunfight at the OK Corral in Tombstone, Arizona, takes place. 1881. Aw, shoot.

27 New York City's first subway opens, 1904. It was time to get *rail*.

29 Roller Skate Reality #5: Sixty-five percent of 11-year-olds in the United States own in-line skates.

30 Roller Skate Reality #6: Sixty-five percent of 11-year-olds in the United States own in-line skates.

31 Halloween. *Aaahhhh!*

▼ Carefully tear out this page along the dotted line

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SCHOLASTIC

It's About Time!

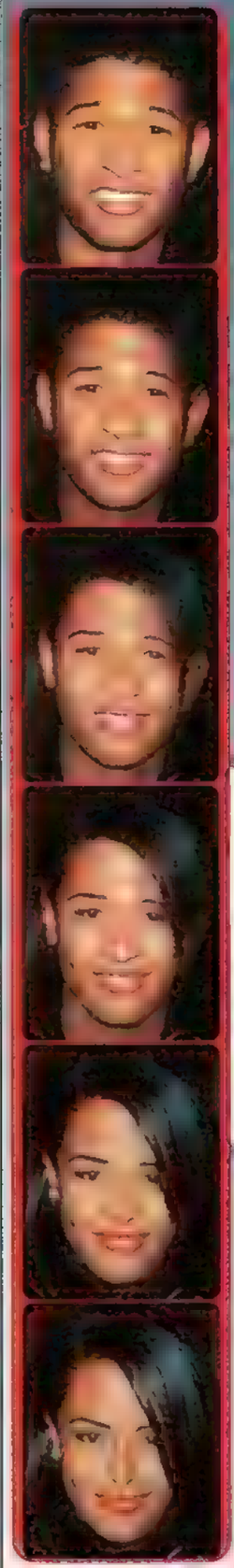
Since time began, humankind has dreamed of traveling backward and forward in time... but guess what? It's not going to happen until someone invents a time machine. In the meantime, you can ponder these pluses and minuses of time travel.

PLUSES

- Can see what lottery numbers will win tomorrow, come back to today, and become a millionaire.
- Can go back and tell Abe Lincoln, "Hey, maybe you don't want to attend the theater tonight."
- Get through the whole fifth grade...*in 10 seconds!*
- Can eat the same pint of ice cream 50 times without throwing up.
- See what's going to happen between Joey and Dawson.

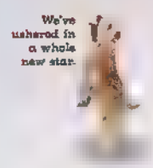
MINUSES

- In the future, gum costs $50,000 per piece.
- Eighty-year-old Britney Spears singing "...Baby One More Time" just doesn't pack a punch.
- In the past, cavemen were cavemen—and didn't use deodorant.
- French fries get cold too fast in the Ice Age.
- Instead of droning on about the "good old days," grown-ups will force you to actually relive them.
- There's no time like the present.



Morph Than Meets the Eye

We thought Usher and Aaliyah would make beautiful music together, so we asked artist Bill Greer to make them a duet.



Make the Campfire Right Before You Light

Smokey is counting on you to build a safe campfire.

1. Dig a small pit away from overhanging branches.
2. Circle the pit with rocks.
3. Clear a five-foot area around the pit down to the soil.
4. Keep a bucket of water and shovel nearby.
5. Stack extra wood upwind and away from the fire.
6. After lighting, do not discard match until it is cold.
7. Never leave a campfire unattended, even for a minute.

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NEWS FROM NICKELODEON • OCTOBER 1999

Real

It's a Dog's Life

Have you ever wished you could have a conversation with your dog? One of the characters on Nick's new show *100 Deeds for Eddie McDowd* can, and he didn't even wish for it. Justin Taylor (played by Brandon Gilberstadt) is the new kid in town, and he's the only one who can hear the dog Eddie McDowd (played by Rowdy, *left*) speak.

So how did Eddie learn to talk? He used to be a kid—the school bully—but then a mysterious man known as The Drifter (played by Richard Moll) cursed him and turned him into a dog for being mean. Now Eddie has to do 100 good deeds to lift the curse.

Rachel Roswal checked in with 13-year-old **Brandon Gilberstadt** and got the poop on the new program.

NICKELODEON MAGAZINE: How are you different from Justin, your character?
BRANDON GILBERSTADT: I'm not as shy as Justin is. I like talking to new people. One similarity, though, is that neither of us is afraid to stand up to people who are bugging us.

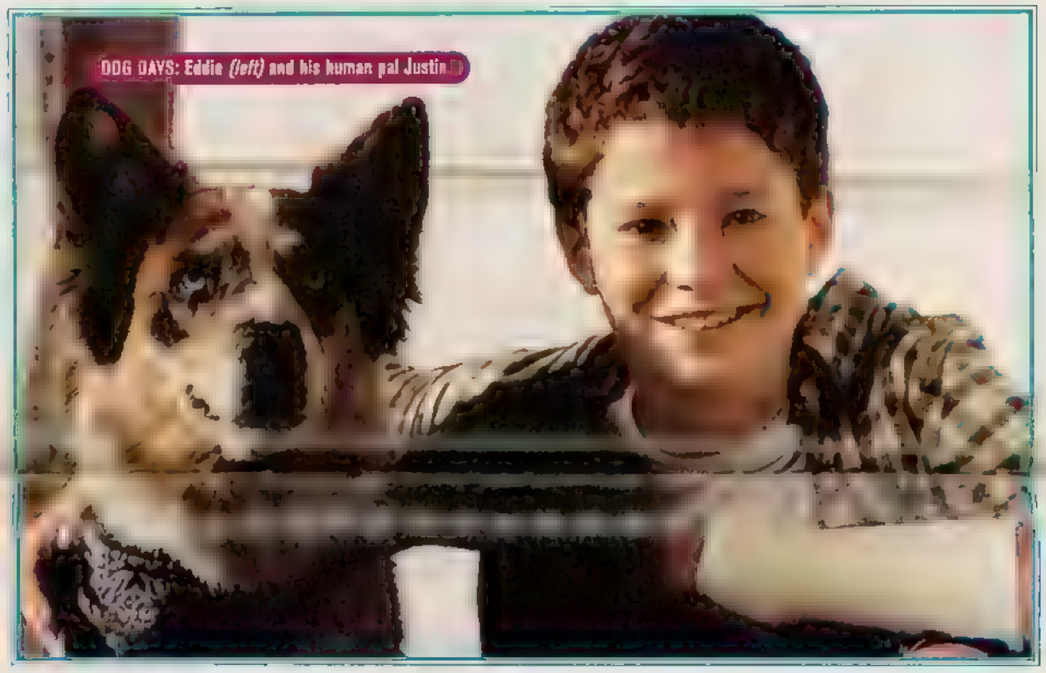
Have you ever been the new kid in town?
No, but I have been the new kid at school. I made friends pretty quickly because I don't like being lonesome.

What's it like acting with a dog?
Sometimes it's hard to concentrate when the trainer is working with Rowdy nearby. And the dog is always drooling.

Is Rowdy on the set as much as everybody else?
He's on the set *more* than everybody else. He's the star of the show, so he has to work really hard. I respect him because it's hard for him to sit still and behave all the time. If I were a dog, I'd want to be running around.

Did it take a while for you to be comfortable working with him?
I was pretty comfortable from the start because I have a dog. Her name is Bandit, and she's a collie-shepherd mix. She's nine-and-a-half and has lots of energy.

Do you have other pets?
I have a cat named Mouser, and he's really big—about twenty-five pounds. He's outside most of the time, and he catches lots of animals. One time he caught a dove in the bushes. He also caught a rabbit recently.



DOG DAYS: Eddie *(left)* and his human pal Justin

Do your cat and dog get along?
My dog likes my cat—sometimes she gives him a bath—but my cat doesn't like my dog at all. They get along like brother and sister.

If you could turn into any animal, what would you be?
I'd want to be a dolphin because they're really smart, and they get to swim all the time. ❑

100 Deeds for Eddie McDowd premieres on Saturday, October 16, at 9 PM in SNICK. Show premieres one hour earlier in the central time zone. Show time is subject to change. Check www.nick.com, America Online (keyword: nick), or local listings for details.

THE FUR FILE
The Truth Behind the Pooch

Real name: Rowdy
Breed: Mix of Australian shepherd and husky
Hometown: Sherman Oaks, California
Age: Four
Favorite snack: Beef with garlic powder
Favorite game: Tug-of-war with a pillowcase
Newest tricks: Digging, picking up and dropping objects, nudging, and barking on command
Trick that needs work: Sitting still
Rowdiest time of day: Evening

They've Got Character!

Can you match each Nickelodeon character on the left with the correct show on the right? We did one for you. Answers on page 78.

1. Otto
2. Squidward
3. Cassie
4. Okrah
5. Heffer
6. Vange
7. Henry & June
8. Bobby

- A. *All That*
- B. *KABLAM!*
- C. *Nickelodeon Rocket Power*
- D. *Cousin Skeeter*
- E. *SpongeBob SquarePants*
- F. *Animorphs*
- G. *Are You Afraid of the Dark?*
- H. *Rocko's Modern Life*

What's New on Nick

by Meredith Hart

IT STINKS AROUND HERE

You can still follow your nose to *Smell-O-Vision*, Nick's interactive (and smelly) on-air event from **Monday, September 20,** through **Friday, September 24,** from **4 PM** to **5 PM.** Even if you don't have the scratch-n-sniff cards, you can enjoy new episodes of *The Wild Thornberrys, SpongeBob SquarePants, Cousin Skeeter, CatDog,* and *Nickelodeon Rocket Power.*

ONE FINE DAY WITH A WOOF AND A PURR...

CatDog is back and better than ever! Watch CatDog join a sideshow, meet the President, become a Sumo wrestler, and make friends with a bowling gorilla. New episodes premiere **Monday, October 4,** at **6:30 PM.**

STRANGE ALIENS

You may have noticed that *The Journey of Allen Strange: Alien Vacation* did not air on September 18 (as we said it would in our September issue), but you can catch it in **SNICK** on **Saturday, October 9,** at **8 PM.** The 90-minute episode will air again **Sunday, October 10,** at **5 PM.**

SHE'S ALL THAT

Stay tuned for the premiere of Amanda Bynes' very own program, *The Amanda Show,* coming to **SNICK** this October.

Shows air one hour earlier in the central time zone. Show times are subject to change. Check www.nick.com, America Online (keyword: nick), or local listings for details.

Real HEY, HERB!

Where you ask the president of Nickelodeon, Herb Scannell, anything you want.

What was your most memorable Halloween costume as a kid?
When I was in second grade, my sister decided to make a Halloween costume for me. She made a big bubble-like thing out of tinfoil that slipped over my head and sat on my shoulders. I was supposed to be an alien. I thought it was the dweebiest thing ever. I wanted to go as a pirate, but my mother's attitude was, "Your sister made it, so you have to wear it." It was just awful.

What's your favorite science-fiction movie?
Close Encounters of the Third Kind. That was pretty great. I like the idea of friendly aliens coming to Earth. It's nice to think that if it ever happened, they wouldn't have to be evil aliens like in *Independence Day.*

Send your questions to

HEY, HERB!
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WHATEVER YOU WANT

Would You Like a Mint? Contest Results

In our May issue, we asked you to design your own coin. These are our contest winners and honorable mentions.

Marissa U., age 11
Plainview, New York

Stephanie S., age 13
Powell, Ohio

Wendy V.P., age 11
Hutchinson, Kansas

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Justin M., age 10 Fort Wayne, Indiana	Ryan L., age 11 Shelbyville, Illinois	Rachel C., age 10 Camp Verde, Arizona
Matthew D., age 11 Fresno, California	Roxanna J. Auburn, Washington	Tiffany C., age 11 Conrad, Montana

Winners will receive a Nickelodeon baseball cap, a T-shirt, Smud, and other Nick stuff.

Real Say What?

from the May issue

Mother: What do you have in your ear?
Son: Your finger!
Chelsea B., age 10
Kansas City, Missouri

Mother: Now, Timmy, you probably have a wax museum in there.
Son: Then why are you washing it out? I could be charging admission.
Kyle M., age 10
Pampa, Texas

Mother: How did you get this washcloth stuck in your ear?
Son: What? I can't hear you! I've got a washcloth stuck in my ear!
Megan F., age 12
Ashland, Kentucky

Mother: I'm doing this for your own good!
Son: No, you're doing this for your own pleasure!
Nickle H., age 11
Aberdeen, Mississippi

Mother: Oh, dear, the pencil has lodged in your ear. I can't take it out.
Son: Don't scrub too hard. You might erase my brain.
Maileen C., age 13
Queens Village, New York

Mother: What do you have in here?
Son: Oh, that's Fred, the little guy who lives in my head.
Bethany M., age 11
Altamonte Springs, Florida

Mother: Well, Billy, so far I've pulled out my hair curler, a pudding cup, your lost teddy bear, and a marble. What next?
Son: If you go a bit to the left, I think you'll find my Game Boy!
Megan H., age 13
Tucson, Arizona

Mother: Tommy, you're old enough to contribute to the family's needs.
Son: But I don't *want* to make a candle with my earwax!
Elizabeth N., age 13
Newport News, Virginia

Mother: Hold still, son, or I can't finish.
Son: Just finish putting my brain in so I can go to school.
Joey C., age 13
Longwood, Florida

Mother: Now, Tommy, I told you not to put that fish in your ear.
Son: But, Mom, my teacher said fish was good brain food.
Ken S., age 7
Euclid, Ohio

Thanks for all your entries. They were good, clean fun.

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KID RHINO

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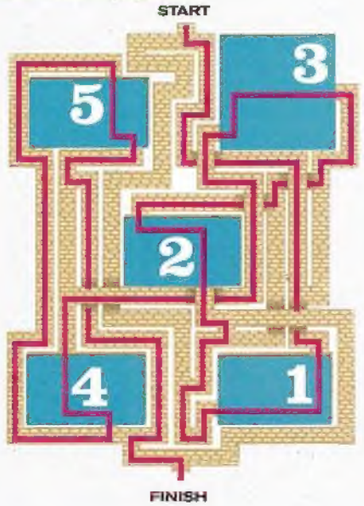
ANSWERS

Science or Fiction? (page 14):
1–S, 2–F, 3–F, 4–S, 5–F, 6–S, 7–S, 8–F, 9–S, 10–S, 11–S, 12–F.

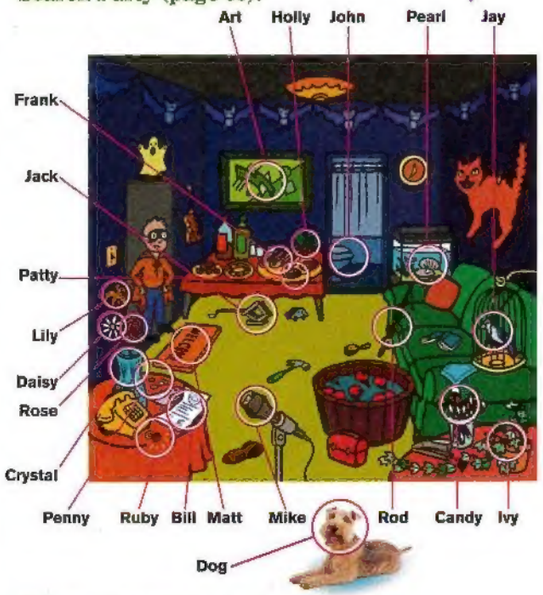
Real

Out of Their Gourds (page 23):
1–Scooby-Doo, 2–Ricky Martin, 3–Austin Powers, 4–Julia Roberts.

Where, Wolf? (page 47):



Search Party (page 60):



They've Got Character! (page 73):
1–C, 2–E, 3–F, 4–A, 5–H, 6–G, 7–B, 8–D.

CREDITS

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Goof Troupe: In our August Contents, we hinted that there might be Popsicles on page 13. There weren't. (They were on page 51.) Mistakes like this make us *sicle*.

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